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GRAND CHAPTER  
ABSTRACT OF  
PROCEEDINGS

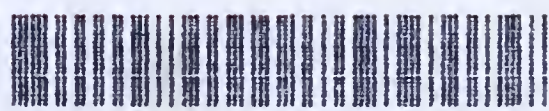
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PENNSYLVANIA.

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ABSTRACT OF THE PROCEEDINGS

OF THE

Grand Holy Royal Arch Chapter

OF

PENNSYLVANIA,

AND MASONIC JURISDICTION THEREUNTO BELONGING,

FOR THE YEAR

A. D. 1872. A. I. 2402.

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*PHILADELPHIA:*

*PRINTED FOR THE GRAND CHAPTER OF PENNSYLVANIA,*

*BY JAMES E. KRYDER, No. 32 SOUTH SEVENTH STREET.*

1873. 2

### SPECIAL NOTICE.

The Proceedings of 1872 are paged to follow those of 1871, making *Part Second*. The Proceedings of 1873 will be *Part Third*, will be paged to follow those of 1872, and will be indexed, thus making a volume complete for binding.

JOHN THOMSON,

*Grand Secretary.*

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Grand Holy Royal Arch Chapter  
OF PENNSYLVANIA.

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QUARTERLY GRAND COMMUNICATION.

Held at Philadelphia, February 1, A. D. 1872, A. I. 2402.

Companion CHARLES EUGENE MEYER, *Most Excellent Grand High Priest*, presiding.

Past Grand High Priests Companions WOOD, NISBET, GRISCOM and THOMPSON.

Thirteen Chapters represented.

A communication was received from Worthington Chapter, No. 220, asking to have the name of said Chapter changed to Fort Washington Chapter; which, on motion, was granted.

The Special Committee on Charity Fund made a report suggesting certain amendments to the Constitution, action on which was postponed until the next Quarterly Grand Communication.

The Committee on Work presented the following report; which was received, and the resolutions attached thereto adopted:

PHILADELPHIA, *February* 1, A. D. 1872—A. I. 2402.

*To the M. E. Grand High Priest,*

*Officers and Members of the  
Grand Holy Royal Arch Chapter of Pennsylvania:*

The Committee on Work respectfully offer the following report:

At the Quarterly Grand Communication of this Grand Chapter, held August 3, A. D. 1871—A. I. 2401, a communication from the Most Excellent Grand High Priest was read, and referred to the Committee on Work. The following is a copy of said communication:

*To the Grand Holy Royal Arch Chapter of Pennsylvania:*

A recent examination of the minutes of Chapters Nos. 171 and 176, disclosed the following:

“August 6, 1868, Chapter No. 171 adopted a resolution asking the Grand Chapter for permission to receive a new application from Brother J. E——.

“October 13, 1868, at a special meeting, Brother J. E—— was introduced and received the Mark Master, Most Excellent Master and Royal Arch degrees.

“There is nothing in the interim to show that such permission was ever obtained from the Grand Chapter, or that a new petition was ever received from Brother E——, or that he was balloted for and approved.”

“December 1, 1870, Chapter No. 171 adopted a resolution asking the Grand Chapter for permission to receive a new application from Brother G. W——.

“January 5, 1871, a communication from the Grand Chapter granting the permission was read, and an application for exaltation and membership was received from Brother G. W——, and referred to a committee.

“February 2, 1871, the Committee on the application of Brother G. W—— reported favorably, when he was balloted for and rejected.

“A motion for a reballot in his case was then made and laid over until the next stated meeting, when it was adopted.

“May 4, 1871, a reballot was had on the application of Brother G. W——, when he was approved, and that same evening the three degrees were conferred upon him.”

“At a special meeting of Chapter No. 176, held on the morning of April 15, 1870, petitions for the three degrees were received from H. G. C——, H. G—— and C. G——, and referred to a committee, which reported forthwith, when the applicants were balloted for and elected as sojourners. And at another meeting held that afternoon, the three degrees were conferred upon the three candidates just named.”

At first it was my intention to exercise the power vested in me, and declare the proceedings in each of these cases null and void. In the first case, in consequence of the records being imperfect, and not showing authority for the action of the Chapter, nor even if it had received the authority, that the rules and regulations had been complied with. In the second case, because permission to receive a new petition from a rejected applicant is only granted upon a representation that the objection is removed, and does not confer the power or privilege to hold more than one ballot. And in the third case, because petitions for the degrees or for membership, can only be received and acted on at stated meetings.

But it being represented to me, that the facts of the minutes in the first case not showing that the Chapter had authority to proceed, and that the rules and regulations had been complied with, was a clerical omission only; and in the second case, that the Chapter was under the impression that permission to present a new petition, placed the petitioner in the same position as when he first applied, and entitled him to a second ballot, and that there was no printed law or decision to the contrary, to their knowledge; and in the third case, that it was a misunderstanding of that clause in the Constitution conferring upon Chapters the power to confer the degrees forthwith on applicants as sojourners, and that it had been done in the presence of and with the sanction of their District Deputy Grand High Priest; and feeling assured there had been no intention in any of them to violate or transgress any rule or regulation of the Grand Chapter, I concluded to take no action in the premi-



ses at that time, but bring the three cases to the notice of the Grand Chapter, and at the same time lay before you all the extracts from the minutes of both Chapters, relating thereto, which are hereto annexed—that the Grand Chapter may take such action thereon as in its wisdom it may deem proper.

I regret to have to state, however, that an examination of the records of the Grand Chapter made within a few days, shows that Chapter No. 171 acted prematurely in the case of Brother J. E——, as permission to receive a new petition from him was not granted until November 5.

MICHAEL NISBET,  
*M. E. Grand High Priest.*

PHILADELPHIA, *August 2*, A. I. 2401.

Your Committee are of the opinion that the foregoing communication of the Most Excellent Grand High Priest embodies the Masonic law on the subject, and renders it unnecessary for us to enter into the merits of the case.

But in order that this Grand Chapter shall mete out justice to those who violate its commands, and that proper punishment shall be inflicted upon those intrusted and solemnly obligated to obey its precepts, we offer the following resolutions :

*Resolved*, That the officers of Chapter No. 171, at the time the transactions specified in this report occurred, be and are hereby censured for their injudicious action in conferring the Chapter degrees upon Brother J. E—— on October 13, 1868, and on Brother G. W—— on May 4, 1871.

*Resolved*, That the officers of Chapter No. 176, at the time the transactions specified in this report occurred, are highly censurable, and are hereby censured, for their action at a special meeting of said Chapter held April 15, 1870, in permitting applications to be received, candidates balloted for and approved, the same being in direct violation of Section 4, Division F, of Article XV of the late Constitution of this Grand Chapter.

*Resolved*, That a copy of this report, with the resolutions attached thereto relative to the Chapter designated, be forwarded to the High Priest of each Chapter named therein, with instructions that they be read in open Chapter at the first meeting of said Chapter

after their reception, and that the same be recorded in full upon the minutes of each Chapter respectively.

All of which is respectfully submitted.

GEO. W. WOOD,  
H. BAUGH,  
DANIEL THOMPSON,  
JOHN THOMSON,  
*Committee.*

The Committee on Work also made a verbal report on the work ; which was approved.

The Most Excellent Grand Treasurer and Most Excellent Grand Secretary reported that they had effected an insurance on the property of the Grand Chapter for \$1,500, in the Pennsylvania Insurance Company ; which was approved.

On motion of Companion John Wilson, Jr., Most Excellent Grand King, the subject of Masonic clothing for the Grand Chapter was referred to the Committee on Work, with power to make such changes as are necessary or appropriate.

## QUARTERLY GRAND COMMUNICATION.

Held at Philadelphia, May 2, A. D. 1872, A. I. 2402.

Companion CHARLES EUGENE MEYER, *Most Excellent Grand High Priest*, presiding.

Past Grand High Priests Companions RILEY, LESCURE, BAUGH, THOMPSON, WOOD, GRISCOM and NISBET.

Thirteen Chapters represented.

A petition was received from Chapter No. 232, to receive a new application from Brother F. T——, a rejected applicant in Chapter No. 91; and a protest was received from Chapter No. 91 against granting such petition; whereupon, after debate, it was

*Resolved*, That the prayer of said petition be not granted.

The Most Excellent Grand High Priest announced the following decisions:

### REFERRING TO APPEALS.

The Committee on Appeals having been applied to by Companions and Chapters against whom appeals have been taken, for a copy of the same, and it not being the duty or within the province of that Committee to furnish copies of the appeals referred to them,



I have decided that in all cases the party making the appeal must first furnish a copy thereof to the brother or Companion, Lodge or Chapter against whose action the appeal is taken, before it can be considered by the Committee on Appeals.

This decision is based on the ground that, in the case of charges against a Companion, an exact copy of the charges must be furnished the accused ; so the appeal is in the nature of a charge, and the Lodge or Chapter, brother or Companion charged with informality or irregularity by the appeal should know the exact nature hereof.

#### REFERRING TO INCORPORATION OF LODGES AND CHAPTERS.

The Most Excellent Grand High Priest called the attention of the Grand Chapter to the fact that Union Chapter, No. 161, at Towanda, Bradford county, Pa., had several years since applied to the Court of Bradford county for an Act of Incorporation, which was granted. He had directed the High Priest to call his Chapter together, and surrender the Act of Incorporation, and have the fact noted on the books of the Court. He also notified the High Priest that, at the present meeting of the Grand Chapter, its attention would be called to the fact of their incorporation, and had received in reply a letter from Companion William A. Peck, a member of the Chapter, which would be read by the Most Excellent Grand Secretary. As this was an important matter and one that needed earnest attention, he submitted the following for the consideration of the Grand Chapter :

“ Can a Chapter or Mark Lodge be allowed to apply for and hold an Act of Incorporation from the civil authority, and thereby divide the allegiance which is due entirely to this Grand Chapter ? ”

After some debate, it was, on motion,

*Resolved*, That the incorporation of all Chapters and bodies subordinate to this Grand Chapter be and the same is hereby forbidden, and notice of this resolution shall be sent to each Chapter and Mark Lodge.

On motion of Companion Robert Clark, it was

*Resolved*, That the District Deputy Grand High Priest of District No. 8 be directed not to permit any *work* to be done in Chapter

No. 161, until such time as they shall have surrendered the charter obtained by them.

Also,

REFERRING TO A SUSPENDED CHAPTER, No. 168.

On November 16, 1857, the warrant of Chapter No. 168, at Waynesburg, was suspended for not making returns since 1852. It has been reported that since that time they have been meeting and conferring the degrees at a lower price than prescribed by the Constitution. In the year 1870, Companion Michael Nisbet, at that time Most Excellent Grand High Priest, directed the District Deputy Grand High Priest, Companion Chatland, to demand the warrant and forward it to the Most Excellent Grand Secretary, which was done. On December 27, 1870, a communication was received from members of the late Chapter No. 168, asking for a restoration of their warrant, which was referred to the Grand Officers, with power to act. The Grand Officers forwarded them directions how to act and what to do, and it is now seventeen months and nothing has been accomplished. The new Constitution, page 33, Article XV, Section 11, says: "The revival of the warrant of a Chapter or Lodge shall, in no instance, be granted, where such Chapter or Lodge shall have ceased to meet for the space of five years." It is now nearly fifteen years since this warrant was suspended. The Most Excellent Grand Secretary, according to my directions, has notified the proper persons to show cause why, at the present meeting of the Grand Chapter, their warrant should not be vacated.

On motion, it was

*Resolved*, That the warrant of Chapter No. 168 be vacated.

[\*\* All those who were members of Chapter No. 168, at Waynesburg, prior to November 16, 1857, were, by the Constitution, suspended from all their rights and privileges as Royal Arch Masons, and can only be placed in good Masonic standing by the Grand Chapter. Those made since that date are irregular, spurious, and clandestine.—*Grand High Priest.*]

REFERRING TO DUE NOTICE OF BALLOTING.

The Most Excellent Grand High Priest having been



called upon to decide what is the "due notice" or "usual notice" to members of Chapters or Lodges, in cases of second ballots or a ballot on a new petition, as required by Article XV, Sections 43 and 44, of the Constitution of 1871; decided:

That there is nothing in the Constitution of the Grand Chapter requiring notice of meeting or list of candidates to be balloted for to be sent to the members of the Lodges or Chapters, and, unless it has been the custom, or the by-laws require notices to be sent, it is not necessary; but where it has been customary, or the by-laws provide for notice, it must be done.

The issuing of notices containing the list of candidates to be balloted for has but lately been introduced, and outside of the city of Philadelphia, or one or two of the larger cities and towns, I think, no printed or written notice is sent out at all, either for the meetings or balloting.

It would be sufficient for the High Priest or Worshipful Master to state publicly, in the open Chapter or Mark Lodge, at a time when the attendance of the members is the greatest, that at the next stated meeting a "ballot" or a "reballot," or a "ballot on a new petition," would be taken, and that would be sufficient notice.

Great care must be taken to give as much publicity as possible to the members, and that the manner of giving "due notice" or the "usual notice" of meetings, &c., must be strictly adhered to in all cases.

As this was a decision on which there might be a diversity of opinion among the members of the Grand Chapter, and as the Most Excellent Grand High Priest did not desire that his decision, as above, should alone be the law, he willingly submits it to the Grand Chapter for such action as they may deem for the best interests of the Royal Arch fraternity.

After some discussion, on motion of Companion Thomas S. Woodbury, *the decision of the Most Excellent Grand High Priest was sustained and approved.*

Petitions were received for warrants for new Chapters to be held at Bellefonte, in Centre county; at Danville, in Montour county; at Newport, in Perry county; and at Philadelphia city; which were referred to the Grand Officers, with power to act.

The Committee on Appeals made the following report; which was accepted and the resolutions attached thereto adopted.

*To the Grand Holy Royal Arch Chapter of Pennsylvania :*

The Committee on Appeals, to whom was referred the appeal of Brother C. W. E—— from the action of Chapter No. 217 in rejecting his application after he had requested it to be withdrawn, respectfully report, that while the right of an applicant to “withdraw his application before report thereon, or after report, and before ballot if the report be favorable,” is undoubted, the testimony furnished the Committee does not sustain the appeal.

Both of the recommenders on Brother E——’s petition admit they were requested to withdraw it, but one of them states further, that subsequent to the request to have the petition withdrawn, Brother E—— consented to allow it to go to ballot.

The petition presented by Brother E—— to Chapter No. 217 was before the Committee, and we regret to have to state that it is not in accordance with the regulations of the Grand Chapter, either at the time No. 217 was constituted, or since, or probably at any time.

Your Committee offer the following resolutions :

*Resolved*, That the appeal of C. W. E—— from the action of Chapter No. 217 is not sustained.

*Resolved*, That Chapter No. 217 is hereby directed not to receive any petitions for the degrees and membership, unless they conform to the regulations of the Grand Chapter on page 80 of its Constitution.

MICHAEL NISBET,  
DAVID B. TAYLOR,  
CHARLES D. FREEMAN.

PHILADELPHIA, *April* 30, 1872-2402.



Also, the following; which was likewise accepted and the resolutions adopted.

*To the Grand Holy Royal Arch Chapter of Pennsylvania :*

In the matter of the several charges preferred at the Annual Grand Communication in December last by Companion J. S——, of Chapter No. 21, against Companion T. F. S——, High Priest of said Chapter, and Companions W. H. E—— and S. H. S——, members thereof, the Committee on Appeals report, that in their opinion the Grand Chapter cannot be called upon to investigate any appeal against the High Priest of a Chapter, unless the Companion making the appeal has proceeded according to its Constitution; nor can it be called upon to investigate charges preferred by a Companion against another Companion or Companions, members of the same subordinate Chapter. The proper tribunal to investigate such charges is the Chapter of which all are members. If after the Chapter has disposed of the charges, either party considers himself aggrieved, he can then appeal to the Grand Chapter from the action of the subordinate Chapter, and not until then.

From the testimony before the Committee it appeared that in the appeal from the action of Companion S——, High Priest of Chapter No. 21, no notice of the appeal had been served upon him as required by the Constitution, and that the charges against the other Companions had never been preferred in their Chapter, nor had any of them had any notice of their having been preferred in the Grand Chapter until notified to appear before the Committee on Appeals. Your Committee therefore declined to pursue the investigation.

An examination of the minutes of Chapter No. 21, and the form of petition used by it, has disclosed certain facts which we deem of sufficient importance to bring to the notice of the Grand Chapter. In May, 1870, the Grand Chapter decided the following clause should be inserted in all petitions for the three Chapter degrees:—  
“That he has not heretofore been rejected by any regularly constituted Lodge of Mark Master Masons, or Most Excellent Master Masons, or Chapter of Royal Arch Masons,” yet to this time, that Chapter receives and acts on petitions that do not contain that clause.

The minutes state as follows:—April 3, 1871. “The Committee to whom was referred the petition of Brother L. M. S—— reported

favorably, and, on motion, the report was accepted and the Committee discharged, and the applicant balloted for and rejected."

May 1, 1871. "In the case of L. M. S—— a ballot was had, whereupon he was unanimously elected."

And the same evening the Mark degree was conferred upon him. No motion was ever made for a second ballot, and no notice was given that a second ballot would be taken; but at the first meeting subsequent to his rejection, a ballot was taken, the candidate approved, and a degree conferred upon him, thus utterly ignoring Section 6, of Division F, of Article XV, of the Constitution at that time.

We therefore offer the following resolutions:

*Resolved*, That in the appeal of Companion J. S—— from the action of Companion T. F. S——, and his charges against Companions W. H. E—— and S. H. S——, the regulations of the Grand Chapter have not been complied with, and that said appeal and charges are hereby dismissed.

*Resolved*, That the form of petition used by Chapter No. 21, and the action of said Chapter in balloting for L. M. S—— May 1, 1871, and its subsequent proceedings in his case, be referred to the Committee on Work for investigation, and to report thereon at the Quarterly Grand Communication to be held in August next.

MICHAEL NISBET,  
CHARLES D. FREEMAN,  
DAVID B. TAYLOR.

PHILADELPHIA, *April* 30, 1872-2402.

A communication was received from Companion Stephen S. Young, Grand High Priest of the Grand Chapter of the State of Maine, appointing Companion John Wilson, Jr., as Grand Representative near this Grand Chapter; when, on motion, the communication was received, and Companion Wilson acknowledged as said Representative.

The report of the Special Committee on the Grand



Chapter Charity Fund, presented at the last Quarterly Grand Communication, and postponed until this evening, was then taken up, considered, amended and adopted, as follows :

#### REGULATIONS FOR THE COMMITTEE ON CHARITY.

1st. The Committee on Charity shall receive and hold in trust all moneys and securities bequeathed, granted or appropriated for a "*Grand Chapter Charity Fund*;" make all investments on account thereof—such investments to be made under the style and title of "The Trustees of the Charity Fund of the Grand Holy Royal Arch Chapter of Pennsylvania;" report their proceedings and the state of the fund annually to the Grand Chapter, or whenever required by the Most Excellent Grand High Priest; and conform to such rules and regulations as may be enacted by the Grand Chapter for the government of said fund. No investments shall be made on account of the fund except in bonds and mortgages and ground-rents, (when the same are a first encumbrance on real estate,) the stocks or loans of the Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania, the United States, the State of Pennsylvania, or the city of Philadelphia; and the Trustees shall have no power to alter or change any investment without the sanction of the Grand Chapter, given at a regular Grand Communication thereof, or at a special Grand Communication called for that purpose. The income derived from the fund shall not be appropriated in any way (except for reinvestment) until the principal thereof amounts to the sum of twenty-five thousand dollars.

2d. When the principal of the Grand Chapter Charity Fund shall amount to the sum of twenty-five thousand dollars as aforesaid, then the Grand Chapter shall provide rules and regulations for the distribution of the interest (or such proportion as may be thought proper) for the relief of Companions or Mark Master Masons in distress.

## QUARTERLY GRAND COMMUNICATION.

Held at Philadelphia, August 1, A. D. 1872, A. I. 2402.

Companion CHARLES EUGENE MEYER, *Most Excellent Grand High Priest*, presiding.

Past Grand High Priests Companions WOOD, SMITH and NISBET.

Fourteen Chapters represented.

The Most Excellent Grand High Priest called attention to the proceedings of Catawissa Chapter, No. 178, and directed that the following communication and extracts from the minutes of said Chapter be read, viz.:

*To the M. E. Grand High Priest,  
Officers and Members of the  
Grand Holy Royal Arch Chapter of Pennsylvania:*

GREETING: The undersigned, by direction of Griscom Holy Royal Arch Chapter, No. 219, located at Ashland, respectfully submit to the attention of the Grand Officers, that Catawissa Chapter, No. 178, located at Catawissa, has disregarded the Eleventh Section of Article A of the Constitution of the said Grand Chapter, viz.:—  
“No Chapter or Lodge shall confer any degree on an applicant residing in the vicinity of another Chapter or Lodge respectively, without the permission of such Chapter or Lodge, or of the three principal officers thereof”—in this, that the said Catawissa Chapter has conferred a degree or degrees on applicants, one or more, residing in Girardsville, in the vicinity of Ashland, without the permission of said Griscom Chapter of Ashland; and that at a regu-

lar meeting of Catawissa Chapter, in November last, an applicant residing in Ashland, viz., A. W——, a member of Ashland Lodge, No. 294, A. Y. M., received the several Chapter degrees in Catawissa Chapter, without the required permission of Griscom Chapter.

What action in such cases should be taken, we herewith submit to the wisdom of the Grand Officers.

Attest :

GEO. H. HELFRICH,  
*Secretary.*

[SEAL.]

ASHLAND, PA., *May* 28, 1872.

#### EXTRACTS FROM THE MINUTES OF CATAWISSA CHAPTER, NO. 178.

June 23, 1869. A petition for exaltation, &c., was received and read, from Brother A. P. C——, aged 21 years, physician, residence St. Clair, and was referred to a committee.

August 18, 1869. The Committee on the petition of Brother A. P. C—— reported favorably, and a ballot was taken and the applicant rejected.

Same date. “On motion, it was ordered that a reballot be had in the case of Brother A. P. C——.”

December 15, 1869. A second ballot was had in the case of Brother A. P. C——, and he was again rejected.

December 20, 1871. “Brother A. P. C—— was then reballoted for and unanimously *elected*.”

January 24, 1872. Brother A. P. C—— received the degrees of Most Excellent Master and Royal Arch Masonry.

By direction of the Most Excellent Grand High Priest.

Attest :

J. ALEX. SIMPSON,  
*Grand Secretary pro tem.*

On motion, the whole matter was referred to the Committee on Work.

The Most Excellent Grand High Priest also stated that Chapter No. 161, at Towanda, had applied to the Court of Bradford county for permission to surrender their act of incorporation; he had therefore permitted them to resume their work.



## QUARTERLY GRAND COMMUNICATION.

Held at Philadelphia, November 7, A. D. 1872, A. I. 2402.

Companion CHARLES EUGENE MEYER, *Most Excellent Grand High Priest*, presiding.

Past Grand High Priests Companions THOMPSON, BAUGH, WOOD, SAMUEL C. PERKINS, SIMPSON and NISBET.

Thirty-three Chapters represented.

A petition was received for a warrant for a Chapter to meet at Pittston, in Luzerne county, which was referred to the Grand Officers, with power to act.

The Committee on Correspondence made the following report; which was approved, and the resolution attached thereto adopted.

*Whereas*, On the 16th of November, A. I. 2401, the subordinate Chapters embraced in the territory of West Virginia, by and with the full consent and fraternal assistance of the Most Excellent Grand Chapter of Virginia, formed a Most Excellent Grand Chapter for that jurisdiction; therefore, be it

*Resolved*, That this Most Excellent Grand Chapter of Pennsylvania do hereby recognize and extend fraternal greeting to our sister of West Virginia, and sincerely hope she may be blessed with abundant success in her enterprise of the Royal Arch.

WILLIAM J. KELLY,  
*For the Committee.*

This being the time fixed for the election of Grand Officers for the ensuing Masonic year, the Most Excellent Grand High Priest appointed tellers, who, after receiving the votes of the Companions, reported the following as the result:

Comp. CHARLES EUGENE MEYER,	. . .	<i>M. E. Grand High Priest.</i>
“ JOHN WILSON, JR.,	. . .	<i>M. E. Grand King.</i>
“ ANDREW ROBENO, JR.,	. . .	<i>M. E. Grand Scribe.</i>
“ THOMAS BROWN,	. . .	<i>M. E. Grand Treasurer.</i>
“ JOHN THOMSON,	. . .	<i>M. E. Grand Secretary.</i>

The Committee on Work presented the following report in the case of Chapter No. 21, referred to them in May last, to wit:

PHILADELPHIA, *November 7*, A. D. 1872—A. I. 2402.

*To the M. E. Grand High Priest,*

*Officers and Members of the*

*Grand Holy Royal Arch Chapter of Pennsylvania:*

The Committee on Work, to whom was referred, at the Quarterly Grand Communication held May 2, 1872, the report made by the Committee on Appeals, and the resolution attached thereto, in the case of Perseverance Royal Arch Chapter, No. 21, at Harrisburg, Pennsylvania, respectfully report:

The resolution is in the following words, viz.:

*Resolved*, That the form of petition used by Chapter No. 21, and the action of said Chapter in balloting for L. M. S—— May 1, 1871, and its subsequent proceedings in his case, be referred to the Committee on Work for investigation, and to report thereon.

Your Committee had before them for examination, the original petition of L. M. S——, and also extracts from the minutes of the Chapter in relation to his case.

In May, 1870, this Grand Chapter decided that the following clause should be inserted in all petitions for the Chapter degrees:

“ That he has not heretofore been rejected by any regularly con-

stituted Lodge of Mark Master Masons, or Most Excellent Master Masons, or Chapter of Royal Arch Masons.”

Yet, the petition of L. M. S—— does not contain that clause, although such had been the law of this Grand Chapter for ten months previous, and Chapter No. 21 had been duly notified by the Most Excellent Grand Secretary of the fact, thus disregarding a law which it was the bounden duty of the Chapter to obey.

Your Committee would here remark, that the names of all applicants for the degrees, or for membership, should be signed with the first name in full, and not as in this case, with the initial letter of the first name.

The extracts from the minutes of the Chapter state as follows :

April 3, 1871. “The Committee to whom was referred the petition of Brother L. M. S——, reported favorably, and, on motion, the report was accepted and the Committee discharged, and the applicant balloted for and rejected.”

May 1, 1871. “In the case of Brother L. M. S—— a ballot was had, whereupon he was unanimously elected.”

And the same evening the degree of Mark Master Mason was conferred upon him. No motion was made for a second ballot, and no notice was given that a second ballot would be taken ; but at the first meeting subsequent to his rejection, a ballot was taken, he was approved, and a degree conferred upon him, thus utterly ignoring Section 6, of Division F, of Article XV of the Constitution at that time, and of Section 43 of Article XV of the present Constitution.

Your Committee would also here remark that, in all applications for the degrees, if the ballot is unanimous, the candidate should be declared *approved*; but in applications for membership, if the ballot is unanimous, he should be declared *elected*, and it must be so recorded on the minutes.

The laws of the Grand Chapter are sacred, and are not to be set aside at will to suit the feelings or convenience of any individual, as in the foregoing recited instances they seem by common consent to have been disregarded. It is the especial duty of the officers of a Chapter to make themselves fully acquainted with the law, and to suffer no deviation therefrom.

In conclusion, your Committee offer the following resolutions :

*Resolved*, That the action of Perseverance Royal Arch Chapter, No. 21, at Harrisburg, in holding a second ballot for L. M. S——,



was a direct violation of the Constitution of this Grand Chapter, and is hereby declared null and void; and that said Chapter is hereby directed to erase his name from the roll of members, and notify him thereof.

*Resolved*, That Perseverance Royal Arch Chapter, No. 21, at Harrisburg, is hereby directed not to receive any petitions for any degree or degrees, unless they conform to the forms adopted by this Grand Chapter in May, 1870, and now to be found on pages 80 and 81 of the present Constitution.

*Resolved*, That a copy of this report, with the resolutions attached thereto, be forwarded to Perseverance Royal Arch Chapter, No. 21, at Harrisburg, with directions that they be read in open Chapter, at the first stated meeting of the Chapter subsequent to their reception, and that the same be engrossed in full on the minutes of the Chapter.

All of which is respectfully submitted.

GEO. W. WOOD,  
MICHAEL NISBET,  
HARMAN BAUGH,  
JOHN THOMSON,  
DANIEL THOMPSON,

*Committee.*

The report was accepted, and the resolutions attached thereto elicited considerable debate, and eventually, Companion Charles D. Freeman offered an amendment to the first resolution, to make it read as follows, to wit:

*Resolved*, That the action of Perseverance Royal Arch Chapter, No. 21, at Harrisburg, in holding a second ballot for L. M. S——, was in direct violation of the Constitution of this Grand Chapter; but, whereas, it appears that said L. M. S—— was not in fault, be it

*Resolved*, That L. M. S—— be and he is hereby placed in good Masonic standing as a Royal Arch Mason, and a member of Perseverance Chapter, No. 21, notwithstanding the illegal action of said Chapter had in his admission.

The resolution as amended, and the other resolutions offered by the Committee were then adopted.

The Committee on Work also presented the following report; which was accepted, and the resolutions appended thereto were adopted.

PHILADELPHIA, *November 7*, A. D. 1872—A. I. 2402.

*To the M. E. Grand High Priest,*

*Officers and Members of the  
Grand Holy Royal Arch Chapter of Pennsylvania:*

The Committee on Work, to whom was referred the proceedings of Catawissa Royal Arch Chapter, No. 178, at Catawissa, Pa., as brought to the notice of this Grand Chapter by the Most Excellent Grand High Priest at the Quarterly Grand Communication held in August last, and also the complaint of Griscom Royal Arch Chapter, No. 219, at Ashland, Pa., against said Catawissa Chapter, respectfully report:

The nature of the proceedings of Catawissa Chapter, No. 178, as stated by the Most Excellent Grand High Priest, are fully expressed in the extracts from the minutes of said Chapter, and also in the complaint of Griscom Chapter, No. 219. The complaint is as follows, viz.:

“That Catawissa Chapter, No. 178, located at Catawissa, has disregarded the 11th Section, of Division A, of Article XV of the Constitution of this Grand Chapter, viz.:—‘No Chapter or Lodge shall confer any degree on an applicant residing in the vicinity of another Chapter or Lodge respectively, without the permission of such Chapter or Lodge, or of the three principal officers thereof’—in this, that the said Catawissa Chapter has conferred a degree or degrees on applicants, one or more, residing in Girardsville, in the vicinity of Ashland, without the permission of said Griscom Chapter of Ashland; and that at a regular meeting of Catawissa Chapter, in November last, an applicant residing in Ashland, viz., A. W——, a member of Ashland Lodge, No. 294, received the several Chapter degrees in Catawissa Chapter, without the required permission of Griscom Chapter.”

From extracts of the minutes of Catawissa Chapter, No. 178, as taken by direction of the Most Excellent Grand High Priest, by Companion J. Alexander Simpson, Most Excellent Grand Secretary



*pro tem.*, it appears that on March 1, 1871, Brothers A. B. S—— and J. M. G——, both residing at Girardsville, and on November 21, 1871, A. W——, residing at Ashland, had the Chapter degrees conferred upon them, whereby the Constitution of this Grand Chapter was disregarded and violated by those whose sacred duty it was to carefully guard and support without fear or favor.

The extracts from the minutes of Catawissa Chapter, No. 178, further state, as follows:

“June 23, 1869. A petition for exaltation, &c., was received and read, from Brother A. P. C——, physician, residence St. Clair, and was referred to a committee.

“August 18, 1869. The Committee on the petition of A. P. C—— reported favorably, and a ballot was taken, and the applicant rejected.

“Same date. On motion, it was ordered that a reëballot be had in the case of A. P. C——.

“December 15, 1869. A second ballot was had in the case of A. P. C——, and he was again rejected.

“December 20, 1871. A. P. C—— was then reballoted for and unanimously elected.

“January 24, 1872. A. P. C—— received the degrees of Most Excellent Master and Royal Arch Masonry.”

Section 7, Division F, Article XV of the late Constitution of this Grand Chapter, reads as follows:

“An applicant being twice rejected, no further proceedings shall be had in his case but by appeal to the Grand Chapter,” &c.

In the case of A. P. C——, as stated, it appears he was rejected August 18, 1869, and on December 15, 1869, he was a second time rejected. December 20, 1871, after a lapse of two years, he was a third time balloted for and approved, or, as the minutes state, elected, and on January 24, 1872, he received the degrees of Most Excellent Master and Royal Arch Masonry.

Upon an examination of the minutes of this Grand Chapter, no record can be found that an appeal was made to this Grand Chapter in his case, as required by the section of the law above quoted.

Your Committee would here remark, that the names of all applicants for the degrees, or for membership, should be signed with the first name in full, and not with the initial letter of the first name,

and also that in all applications for the degrees, if the ballot is unanimous, the candidate should be declared *approved*; but in applications for membership, if the ballot is unanimous, he should be declared *elected*, and it must be so recorded on the minutes.

Your Committee have carefully examined the communication from Griscom Chapter, No. 219, and also the extracts from the minutes of Catawissa Chapter, No. 178, and have given the subject their serious attention.

To sanction the action of Catawissa Chapter, No. 178, under the foregoing recited proceedings, would be in effect to encourage it in the violation of the Constitution of this Grand Chapter. It is the imperative duty of the officers of a Chapter to make themselves familiar with the laws of the Grand Chapter, and the by-laws of the subordinate Chapter over which they preside, to be prompt and decided in the enforcement thereof, and to discountenance every attempt to violate them.

Your Committee are unanimously of the opinion that Catawissa Chapter, No. 178, or at least the officers thereof who officiated at the time of the before-mentioned proceedings, are reprehensible for their oft-repeated violations of the laws of this Grand Chapter. We therefore offer the following resolutions for adoption:

*Resolved*, That Catawissa Royal Arch Chapter, No. 178, located at Catawissa, Pa., is hereby censured for receiving and acting upon petitions from applicants residing in the vicinity of other Chapters, without having permission from such Chapters, or of the three principal officers thereof, the same being in direct violation of Section 11, of Division A, of Article XV of the late Constitution of this Grand Chapter.

*Resolved*, That the action of Catawissa Royal Arch Chapter, No. 178, at Catawissa, Pa., in holding a third ballot, and conferring the degrees on A. P. C——, without having first obtained permission from this Grand Chapter to hold such ballot, was irregular, and is hereby declared null and void, and that said Chapter is hereby directed to strike the said A. P. C——'s name from its roll of members, and notify him thereof.

*Resolved*, That a copy of this report, with the resolutions attached thereto, be forwarded to Catawissa Royal Arch Chapter, No. 178, at Catawissa, Pa., with directions that they be read in open Chapter at the first stated meeting of the Chapter subsequent to their recep-



tion, and that the same be engrossed in full on the minutes of the Chapter.

All of which is respectfully submitted.

GEO. W. WOOD,  
MICHAEL NISBET,  
HARMAN BAUGH,  
JOHN THOMSON,  
DANIEL THOMPSON,  
*Committee.*

The Committee on Finance made the following report; which was accepted, and the resolutions appended thereto were adopted.

PHILADELPHIA, *November 4, 1872.*

*To the M. E. Grand High Priest,*

*Officers and Members of the*

*Grand Holy Royal Arch Chapter of Pennsylvania:*

#### COMPANIONS:

The Committee on Finance have carefully examined the accounts of the Most Excellent Grand Treasurer and Most Excellent Grand Secretary from the twenty-seventh day of December, Anno Domini 1871, to date, and find them correct, showing a balance in the hands of the Most Excellent Grand Treasurer at this date of one thousand nine hundred and thirty-three dollars and twenty-seven cents, (\$1,933.27.)

The Receipts of the Grand Chapter for the Masonic year commencing December 27, A. D. 1871, to date, have been as follows:

Balance on hand December 27, 1871	\$840 20
From dues and fees of Chapters and Mark Lodges	5,404 83
Seven new warrants	650 00
Interest on investments	1,494 68
Interest on deposits of the M. E. Grand Treasurer	20 25
Constitutions, certificates, &c.	118 00
Total	\$8,527 96

Total amount of Receipts brought forward, . \$8,527 96

The Expenditures have been as follows :

Expenses of the M. E. Grand High Priest	\$1,500 00	
“ District Deputy Grand High		
Priests . . . . .	162 06	
Printing new Constitution . . . . .	678 61	
Salaries . . . . .	1,150 00	
Expenses of Grand Chapter for rent, print-		
ing, stationery, &c. . . . .	1,104 02	
Invested in Masonic Redemption Loan .	2,000 00	
Total . . . . .	\$6,594 69	6,594 69
Leaving a balance in hand of . . . . .		\$1,933 27

From the data furnished your Committee, we estimate that the Receipts of the Grand Chapter for the ensuing Masonic year will be as follows :

From dues and fees . . . . .	\$4,800 00
New warrants, certificates, &c. . . . .	500 00
Interest on investments . . . . .	1,100 00
Total . . . . .	\$6,400 00

And the Expenditures as follows :

Expenses of the M. E. Grand High Priest	\$1,500 00	
“ District Deputy Grand High		
Priests . . . . .	200 00	
Current expenses of the Grand Chapter for		
rent, printing, stationery, &c. . . . .	800 00	
Printing Annual Proceedings . . . . .	400 00	
Salaries . . . . .	1,150 00	
		4,050 00
Leaving a surplus of . . . . .		\$2,350 00

The Investments of the Grand Chapter are—

In the New Masonic 7-30 Loan of the Grand Lodge,	\$13,300 00
In the 6 per cent. Redemption Loan of the Grand Lodge,	2,000 00
Total . . . . .	\$15,300 00

Annexed hereto is a Balance Sheet (furnished by the Most Excellent Grand Secretary) to Monday, November 4, A. D. 1872, the end of the fiscal year of 1872; and one for November 5, A. D. 1872, the commencement of the present financial year: showing a nett increase of the assets of the Grand Chapter during the fiscal year of 1872 of two thousand five hundred and seventy-eight dollars and seventy-five cents, (\$2,578.75.)

The amount due the Grand Chapter and uncollected is seventy-eight dollars and seventy-five cents, (\$78.75;) and the amount due by the Grand Chapter to subordinate Chapters (which has been overpaid by them) is seventy-seven dollars and seventy cents, (\$77.70:) thus showing that the accounts are as closely collected as can well be done, and that the accounts of the Grand Chapter are nearly balanced.

The Committee congratulate the Grand Chapter on its continued prosperity and the present gratifying and favorable condition of its finances, and offer the following:

*Resolved*, That the following appropriations be made for the year 1873:

For expenses of the M. E. Grand High Priest . . . . .	\$1,500 00
“ District Deputy Grand High Priests, . . . . .	200 00
Current expenses of the Grand Chapter for rent, printing, stationery, &c. . . . .	800 00
Printing Annual Proceedings . . . . .	400 00
Salaries . . . . .	1,150 00
Total . . . . .	<u>\$4,050 00</u>

*Resolved*, That the Most Excellent Grand High Priest be and is hereby authorized and directed to draw his warrants on the Most Excellent Grand Treasurer for the above amounts as they may become due.

*Resolved*, That the sum of seventeen hundred dollars (\$1700) of the balance now on hand be invested in the six per cent. Masonic Redemption Loan of the Grand Lodge.

All of which is respectfully submitted by

CONRAD B. DAY,  
M. RICHARDS MUCKLÉ,  
DENNIS F. DEALY,  
EDWARD MASSON,  
HORACE FRITZ,

*Committee on Finance.*



*Balance Sheet of Accounts of the Grand Chapter of Pennsylvania,  
November 4, 1872, being the close of the fiscal year of 1872.*

Amounts due from

Chapter No. 161, Towanda,	.	.	\$27 30	
“ 182, Wilkesbarre,	.	.	3 45	
“ 204, Honesdale,	.	.	12 00	
“ 230, Ridgway,	.	.	36 00	
				\$78 75
Expenses of M. E. Grand High Priest	.	.	.	1,500 00
“ District Deputy Grand High Priests	.	.	.	162 06
“ Grand Chapter	.	.	.	1,782 63
Salaries for 1872	.	.	.	1,150 00
Investments	.	.	.	15,300 00
Cash on hand	.	.	.	1,933 27
				<u>\$21,906 71</u>

Amounts overpaid by Chapter No. 152	.	.	97	
“ “ 159	.	.	\$6 54	
“ “ 164	.	.	4 05	
“ “ 185	.	.	27 60	
“ “ 215	.	.	15 24	
“ “ 218	.	.	1 30	
“ “ 224	.	.	6 70	
“ “ 227	.	.	15 30	
				\$77 70
Dues and fees accruing in 1872	.	.	.	4,889 43
Interest received	.	.	.	1,514 93
Received for warrants	.	.	.	650 00
“ Constitution, certificates, &c.	.	.	.	118 00
Profit and loss account	.	.	.	1 08
Grand Chapter of Pennsylvania	.	.	.	<u>14,655 57</u>
				<u>\$21,906 71</u>

*Balance Sheet of Accounts of the Grand Chapter of Pennsylvania,  
November 5, 1872, being the commencement of the fiscal year  
of 1873.*

Amounts due from Chapters as above	.	.	\$78 75	Amounts due to Chapters as above	.	.	\$77 70
Investments	.	.	15,300 00	Grand Chapter of Penn-			
Cash on hand	.	.	1,933 27	sylvania	.	.	17,234 32
			<u>\$17,312 02</u>				<u>\$17,312 02</u>

Increase in the nett assets of the Grand Chapter during  
the fiscal year of 1872 . . . . . \$2,578 75

# Grand Holy Royal Arch Chapter

## OF PENNSYLVANIA.

### ANNUAL GRAND COMMUNICATION.

St. John the Evangelist's Day,

Philadelphia, December 27, A. D. 1872, A. I. 2402.

Present:

Comp. CHARLES E. MEYER, - -	-	<i>M. E. Grand High Priest.</i>
" JOHN WILSON, JR., -	-	<i>M. E. Grand King.</i>
" ANDREW ROBENO, JR., -	-	<i>M. E. Grand Scribe.</i>
" THOMAS BROWN, - -	-	<i>M. E. Grand Treasurer.</i>
" JOHN THOMSON, - -	-	<i>M. E. Grand Secretary.</i>
" J. ALEXANDER SIMPSON, -	-	<i>Deputy Grand Secretary.</i>
" GEORGE P. OWEN, - -	-	<i>D. D. Grand High Priest.</i>
" ROBERT H. PATTISON, D. D.,	-	<i>Grand Captain of the Host.</i>
" GEORGE E. WAGNER, - -	-	<i>Grand Principal Sojourner.</i>
" GEORGE W. MACLAUGHLIN, -	-	<i>Grand Chaplain.</i>
" ALEXANDER M. WIGGINS, -	-	<i>Grand Chaplain.</i>
" JOSEPH S. GEORGE, - -	-	<i>Grand R. A. Captain.</i>
" ISAAC MUFF, - -	-	<i>Grand Master of 3d Vail.</i>
" THOMAS JACOBS, - -	-	<i>Grand Master of 2d Vail.</i>
" GEORGE W. KENDRICK, JR., -	-	<i>Grand Master of 1st Vail.</i>
" EDWARD MASSON, - -	-	<i>Grand Marshal.</i>
" THOMAS R. PATTON, - -	-	<i>S. G. Master of Ceremonies.</i>
" M. H. HENDERSON, - -	-	<i>J. G. Master of Ceremonies.</i>
" JOHN L. YOUNG, - -	-	<i>Grand Pursuivant.</i>
" CHARLES SCHNIDER, - -	-	<i>Grand Tyler.</i>

*Past Grand High Priests.*

Companion GEORGE W. WOOD.

Companion MICHAEL NISBET.

*Representative of the Grand Chapter of Oregon.*

Companion MICHAEL NISBET.

*Representative of the Grand Chapter of Maine.*

Companion JOHN WILSON, JR.

*Representative of the Grand Mark Lodge of England.*

Companion CHARLES E. MEYER.

Thirteen Chapters represented.

The Grand Chapter was opened in ancient and solemn form at six o'clock and fifteen minutes.

A commission was received and read from the Grand Mark Lodge of England, &c., appointing Companion CHARLES E. MEYER as its Representative near this Grand Chapter, conferring upon him the rank of Past Senior Grand Warden of the Grand Mark Lodge of England; whereupon Companion Meyer was received and acknowledged as such.

The Committee on Correspondence made a report; which was referred to the Grand Officers for publication. (See Appendix "D.")

So much of the minutes of the Quarterly Grand Communication in November last as referred to the election of Grand Officers having been read, all but Past High Priests who had received the Order of



High Priesthood retiring, Past Grand High Priest Companion GEORGE W. WOOD was pleased to install Companion CHARLES E. MEYER Most Excellent Grand High Priest of the Grand Chapter of Pennsylvania.

The Companions having been readmitted, the Most Excellent Grand High Priest was pleased to install

Comp. JOHN WILSON, JR.,	-	-	<i>M. E. Grand King.</i>
“ ANDREW ROBENO, JR.,	-	-	<i>M. E. Grand Scribe.</i>
“ THOMAS BROWN,	-	-	<i>M. E. Grand Treasurer.</i>
“ JOHN THOMSON,	-	-	<i>M. E. Grand Secretary.</i>

The Most Excellent Grand High Priest then made the following address to the Grand Chapter, which was listened to with marked attention by the members:

COMPANIONS:

Custom has made it a usage on this day, that the Most Excellent Grand High Priest of the Grand Chapter of Pennsylvania shall render an account of his official actions during the year just closing, and offer such suggestions as might, in his judgment, prove for the best interests of this Grand Chapter.

The year has been most prosperous in every particular; the Grand Chapter and its subordinates have prospered, and peace, harmony, concord and unity have dwelt within our midst.

To the all-wise, ever-living God we owe our entire thanks for his protecting care during the past, and his blessings should be earnestly invoked for the future.

The several subordinate Chapters early in the year made their annual returns, and it is with pleasure that I announce that all have complied with the Constitution and paid their indebtedness to this Grand Body.

Financially, the condition of the Grand Chapter is most flattering.

The investments at the beginning of the year were	\$13,300
To which has been added during the year the sum of	3,700

Making a grand total of	\$17,000
All of which is invested in the New Masonic Temple Loan.	

## GRAND VISITATIONS.

In accordance with the announcement made in my address on St. John's Day last, I have made official Grand Visitations to the following Chapters:

Monday, February 26, Jerusalem Chapter, No. 3, Philadelphia.  
 Thursday, March 21, Oriental Chapter, No. 183, Philadelphia.  
 Monday, March 25, Kensington Chapter, No. 233, Philadelphia.  
 Tuesday, April 2, St. John Chapter, No. 232, Philadelphia.  
 Monday, April 5, Harmony Chapter, No. 52, Philadelphia.  
 Wednesday, April 17, Columbia Chapter, No. 91, Philadelphia.  
 Wednesday, May 15, Siloam Chapter, No. 226, Frankford.  
 Friday, May 17, Philadelphia Chapter, No. 169, Philadelphia.  
 Thursday, May 23, Keystone Chapter, No. 175, Philadelphia.  
 Monday, May 27, Germantown Chapter, No. 208, Germantown.

On each of the above Grand Visitations I was accompanied by my entire staff of Grand Officers, and many of the Past Grand High Priests. The minute-books having been previously examined, were reported on by the Grand Secretary, and the errors therein pointed out and corrected, after which an address was delivered by the Grand High Priest, explaining their duties as Royal Arch Masons, and giving advice for the future. (See Appendix "A.")

Visits were also made, and the work exemplified and inspected as follows:

March 12, to George Washington Chapter, No. 176, Chambersburg. The work was well done by the officers of the Chapter. The Royal Arch was exemplified by the Grand High Priest.

May 27, to Germantown Chapter, No. 208, Germantown. The Royal Arch degree was excellently conferred by the High Priest.

July 8, to Zinzendorf Chapter, No. 216, Bethlehem. The candidate who had been elected was not present, but the High Priest, Companion H. A. Wiltberger, exemplified the Mark degree in a manner to comply fully with the work and requirements of the Grand Chapter.

July 23, to Mountain Chapter, No. 189, Altoona. The Most Excellent Master's degree was conferred on two candidates by the Grand King, Companion John Wilson, Jr., and the Royal Arch on the same candidates by the Grand High Priest.

August 6, to Standing Stone Chapter, No. 201, Huntingdon, when instructions were given in the Mark and Royal Arch.



September 3, to Lilly Chapter, No. 181, Mauch Chunk, where the Mark and Most Excellent degrees were conferred on five candidates by the Grand Scribe, Companion Andrew Robeno, Jr., and the Grand King, Companion John Wilson, Jr. The attendance here was large, and the Chapter was found in a most flourishing condition.

September 4, to Shekinah Chapter, No. 182, Wilkesbarre. The Most Excellent Master's degree was conferred by the Grand King, and the Royal Arch degree and the Order of High Priesthood by the Grand High Priest. The attendance was very large, every Chapter in the district being represented by its officers.

September 16, to Allen Chapter, No. 203, Allentown. The Mark degree was conferred in an able manner on two candidates by the District Deputy Grand High Priest, Companion Edwin G. Martin.

November 20, to Excelsior Chapter, No. 237, Reading.

November 20, to Reading Chapter, No. 152, Reading.

In each of the above visits, with but one or two exceptions, the minutes were examined and reported on by the Grand Secretary, and instructions given by the Grand High Priest.

I have discountenanced the expenditure of any portion of the funds of the subordinate Chapters for the entertainment of myself and the other Grand Officers, preferring a warm and hearty welcome in the close-tiled Chapter to that of the impossible to-be-tiled public banquet-hall.

The reception given by the Companions throughout the jurisdiction to the Grand Officers was of the warmest character and all that could be expected.

It is a matter of congratulation to find the great progress made in the acquirement of the work of the Grand Chapter during the past six or eight years.

It was a great privilege for me to accompany the Grand High Priest, at that time Most Excellent Companion Samuel C. Perkins, during the first series of Grand Visitations throughout this jurisdiction. Then there were as many different kinds of work as there were Chapters visited, the Grand Officers, in many cases, being looked upon as intruders; but now, the work is uniform (at least, as much so as can be possible) and the Grand Officers are in all places received and welcomed as Companion Royal Arch Masons. We all have great reason to be grateful to Companions Past Grand High Priests Baugh, Wood, S. C. Perkins, Griscom and Nisbet for the present prosperity of Capitular Masonry in Pennsylvania.



## NEW CHAPTERS.

Warrants have been granted to the following new Chapters, the Companions having supplied themselves with the necessary clothing and furniture, and a suitable place of meeting. The officers nominated being familiar with the work of the Grand Chapter and competent to do it, they were constituted, and the officers installed as follows:

May 28, Palestine Chapter, No. 240, Philadelphia; Companion Charles D. Freeman, High Priest.

May 29, Bellefonte Chapter, No. 241, Bellefonte; Companion D. G. Bush, High Priest.

August 28, Newport Chapter, No. 238, Newport; Companion P. L. Greenleaf, High Priest.

September 5, Danville Chapter, No. 239, Danville; Companion O. H. Ostrander, High Priest.

A dispensation was issued to District Deputy Grand High Priest C. M. Hoover, to constitute Oil City Chapter, No. 236, at Oil City.

## DISPENSATIONS.

Dispensations were granted in the following cases:

On January 16, to Chapter No. 220, at Fort Washington, to hold a special election for officers, in consequence of the High Priest elect having been suspended for non-payment of dues by his Mark Lodge, thereby suspending him from his membership in said Chapter.

On January 26, to George Washington Chapter, No. 176, at Chambersburg, to hold a special election for High Priest and other officers, the High Priest elect refusing to be installed.

On March 25, to District Deputy Grand High Priest William Chatland, to reopen and set to work Uniontown Chapter, No. 165, and hold an election for officers. This Chapter had been dormant for a number of years, but it is now gradually working up to the proper standard. Much is expected of it in the future.

## MARK LODGES.

Early in the year, resolutions were presented in one of the Mark Lodges which were, to say the least, unmasonic in their tenor. They were intended to close up the Mark Lodges, and many suggestions were offered as to the best way to dispose of the permanent funds.

One proposition was to form a new Chapter out of the Mark Lodge and donate a certain amount for the expenses of the same.

Another, was to donate the funds to the Grand Lodge Charity Fund.

Others, that the sum of fifteen dollars be returned to every member, this to be in consideration of the five or ten dollars paid for the Marking fee; while, I am sorry to say, by far the larger number wanted the money squandered in a large supper.

After the money and investments were all disposed of, it was proposed to surrender their warrant to the Grand Chapter.

It having officially been brought to my attention, I decided that as long as six members desired to continue the Mark Lodge, that a majority could not surrender the warrant and deprive them of their membership. That the permanent fund having been created for the special purpose of distributing the charity of the Lodge to worthy Mark Master Masons, their widows and orphans, and also for the special purpose of perpetuating the Mark Lodge, the fund could not be diverted from the purposes of its creation, nor divided *pro rata* among the members.

This subject of Mark Lodges will ere long require the earnest consideration of the Grand Chapter. They are doing little or no work; the working expenses and demands for charity are constantly increasing, and although they have money enough invested, the interest of which will pay their ordinary expenses, yet it is discouraging to the few members who do attend the meetings, to find so little work to do.

During the year just closing, the three Mark Lodges have conferred the degree of Mark Master Mason on seven candidates, where a few years ago they numbered from three hundred to four hundred.

If those who are so active in working for the advancement of the Chapters, would recommend a few candidates to the Mark Lodges, they would soon again wear the old-time look.

The perpetuation of the Mark Lodge rests entirely with its members.

#### CHAPTER NO. 233.

Early in the year, a candidate petitioned Kensington Chapter, No. 233, for the degrees and membership, was approved and had the honorary degree of Mark Master Mason conferred on him.

It having been brought to my attention that he did not possess the necessary qualification of having previously "passed the chair," I decided the action of the Chapter in Marking him to be null and



void, and that said candidate was an irregularly made Mark Master Mason; that he must first pass the chair, and then, should he desire to receive the degrees of Royal Arch Masonry, he must apply in the usual form, by petition at a stated meeting; said petition must go through all the Constitutional requirements, and if approved, he must have the Mark degree conferred on him again, the same as if he had never received it.

#### JURISDICTION.

On January 15, 1872, I addressed a letter to Most Excellent Companion Rees G. Williams, Grand High Priest of New York, relative to brethren residing in Pennsylvania going to Chapters in New York to receive the capitular degrees. I stated that if the reasons were good and sufficient, and the applicants had first passed the chair in this jurisdiction, either by election or dispensation, permission might be granted. In reply I received a most fraternal letter from Companion Williams, in which he stated that the Chapters in New York State have been prohibited by him from receiving petitions from residents of Pennsylvania.

#### CHAPTERS 219 AND 178.

Complaint having been made by Griscom Chapter, No. 219, of Ashland, against Catawissa Chapter, No. 178, at Catawissa, on account of taking candidates from the jurisdiction of the former Chapter without previous permission, I directed the High Priest of No. 178 to summon under seal his Chapter to meet the Grand Officers on May 30; accordingly a large number of the members were in attendance in obedience to the summons, several of the officers and members of Chapter No. 219 being also present. The state of feeling in Chapter No. 178 was of a character to seriously interfere with its peace and harmony. The officers, from example of their predecessors in office, were negligent of their duties, were inattentive to the Constitution, and with no ambition to learn the work of the Grand Chapter. After a careful investigation, the Companions were instructed in their duties, and in the requirements of the Constitution.

It is with gratification that I learn that the visit of the Grand Officers proved beneficial, and that there is more harmony among the membership, and fraternal love to their Companions, than has been manifested for a long time back.



## CHAPTER 152.

From personal observation, and complaints having been made to me, I found that the chapter room of Reading Chapter, No. 152, could not be properly tiled. I therefore prohibited that Chapter from doing any work until it was made secure.

On November 20 last, the foregoing action of the Grand High Priest having been misconstrued, and on account of dissensions and discussions arising from the desire of the majority to change the place of meeting, I visited the Chapter and was welcomed by a large number of the members.

The principal ground of complaint seemed to be, that the Chapter having authorized its trustees, to contract a lease for the old place of meeting, resolved to move to a new hall without protecting the trustees. I decided that the Chapter was morally responsible for the action of its trustees acting under its directions, and must protect them in any liability incurred in breaking the lease.

I am satisfied that the visit will tend greatly to restore the peace and harmony of Royal Arch Masonry in Reading.

## RELATIONS TO OTHER GRAND BODIES.

The relations between the Grand Chapter of Pennsylvania and the other Grand Bodies of the United States and England continue of the most friendly character.

Standing among the other Grand Chapters of the world, we acknowledge none as our superior, but all as our peers and equals. Recognizing all, welcoming all, exchanging brotherly greetings with all, we may justly pride ourselves on the position we occupy.

Desiring to draw still more closely, if possible, the bonds which unite us with our sister Grand Chapters, I have appointed—

Companion Marquis F. King, of Portland, Maine, a Past Grand King and member of that Grand Chapter, as the representative of the Grand Chapter of Pennsylvania, near the Grand Chapter of Maine.

Companion J. P. C. Cottrell, of Milwaukee, Wisconsin, a Past High Priest and member of that Grand Chapter, as the representative of the Grand Chapter of Pennsylvania, near the Grand Chapter of Wisconsin.

Companion Edward T. Schultz, of Baltimore, Maryland, a Past

Deputy Grand High Priest and member of that Grand Chapter, as the representative of the Grand Chapter of Pennsylvania, near the Grand Chapter of Maryland.

Companion William James Hughan, of Truro, Cornwall, England, a Royal Arch Mason, and a Past Mark Master Mason, and member of the Grand Mark Lodge of England, as the representative of the Grand Chapter of Pennsylvania, near the Grand Mark Lodge of England, so far as relates to Mark Masonry.

It having been brought to the attention of Companion Jerome Buck, our representative near the Grand Chapter of New York, that the requirements of a representative of this Grand Chapter were that he must be a Past High Priest and member of the Grand Chapter to which he is accredited, he not possessing the necessary qualifications, tendered to me his resignation, which I accepted, and appointed in his stead Companion John W. Simons, of New York City, a Past Grand High Priest and member of that body, as the representative of the Grand Chapter of Pennsylvania, near the Grand Chapter of New York.

#### CHAPTER No. 205.

The hall of the Chapter at Factoryville not being suitably arranged for the purposes of Royal Arch Masonry, I suspended the work of that Chapter until satisfied that the place of meeting could be made secure.

#### RESIGNATIONS.

In August last, Companion Charles R. Schantz tendered to me his resignation as Grand Marshal on account of the press of his private business. I accepted the same with regret, and appointed Companion Edward Masson as Grand Marshal. Companion Schantz, during his term of office, performed the duties thereof to the entire satisfaction of the Grand Officers.

District Deputy Grand High Priests Edwin G. Martin, M. D., Michael B. Hering, Henry Austin and Benjamin F. Custer, on account of business engagements, have requested to be relieved of their offices at the expiration of the present year. These Companions have done much to advance the interests of Royal Arch Masonry in their districts, and the Grand Chapter can ill afford to part with their services.



## FIFTIETH ANNIVERSARY OF CHAPTER NO. 91.

On September 18, Columbia Chapter, No. 91, of Philadelphia, celebrated its fiftieth anniversary. The occasion was made one of rejoicing and festivity. An interesting address was delivered by the Secretary, Past High Priest Companion J. Alexander Simpson, giving an historical sketch of the Chapter, which was listened to with pleasure and satisfaction. The warmest kind of welcome was extended to all. After the intellectual feast, the assemblage repaired to the banquet-hall, where the festivities were continued until a late hour. The day was one long to be remembered with pleasure by all who were permitted to participate. Among those present was Companion John Wilson, Sr., (the father of the Most Excellent Grand King,) whose petition was presented to the Chapter on the first night of its existence. His presence added to the interest of the occasion, and wishes were expressed that his days might be long. But he was near the end of his time; a few short days, and the Chapter that gloried in his presence were called upon to mingle with his Lodge in according the last public token of respect to his memory.

An honored Companion has gone to an honored grave.

## COMPLAINT FROM THE GRAND CHAPTER OF NEW JERSEY.

On November 25, the Grand High Priest of New Jersey, Most Excellent Companion T. H. R. Redway, called my attention to the fact that Chapter No. 43, at Lancaster, had received the petition of, and conferred the degrees of Royal Arch Masonry upon, a candidate who had previously been rejected in a Chapter in New Jersey.

Upon an examination of the books and papers of Chapter No. 43, and from further information received from the Grand High Priest of New Jersey, I found that Brother J. H. W——, who had no settled place of residence, but was a property owner in Patterson, N. J., had applied by petition for the Royal Arch degrees to Cataract City Chapter, No. 10, of Patterson, N. J., and was rejected therein, and on a second ballot was again rejected. Sojourning for a short time at Lancaster, Pa., he sought to receive the degrees in Chapter No. 43.

A communication was sent in May last by Chapter No. 43 to Chapter No. 10, of New Jersey, asking permission to receive said W——'s petition. The Secretary of that Chapter sent his answer to one of the members of the Chapter at Lancaster, instead of to the officers who had made the request, and simply stated that the permission to receive the petition was *not* granted.



In September, Brother W—— dimitted from the Lodge at Patterson, N. J., and affiliated with Lodge No. 43, at Lancaster, and was therein passed to the chair. In October last, he applied for the degrees of Royal Arch Masonry as a *sojourner* in Chapter No. 43, signing the petition “that he had never been rejected in any Mark or Most Excellent Master’s Lodge or Chapter of Royal Arch Masons.” He was balloted for and approved, and received the several degrees on the same evening *as a sojourner*. Immediately after his exaltation he applied for membership, when the petition was laid over under the requirements of the Constitution.

Upon the statement of the foregoing facts having been made known to Chapter No. 43, at Lancaster, they did all in their power to undo what they had done in error.

Although Chapter No. 43 is censurable for receiving, and acting forthwith upon, the petition of a person who was unknown to nearly its entire membership, and who had only a temporary residence in Lancaster, yet I must say that Cataract City Chapter, No. 10, of Patterson, N. J., is more censurable, in that when Chapter No. 43 addressed a respectful communication under its seal, signed by the High Priest, attested by the Secretary, asking for permission to receive W——’s petition, the Secretary of No. 10, of New Jersey, simply wrote that permission was *not* granted, but not one word was said in regard to his *rejection* by that Chapter.

It is always presumable that a rejected candidate does not receive an official notice of his rejection, and when a Chapter, through its officers and under its seal, asks for all the information in his case, it is the duty of the Chapter rejecting, to notify under seal the Chapter in which the petition is pending of all the facts. In this case also, instead of sending their reply to the proper officers, whose names were signed to the request, it was sent to one of the members, who in the hurry of business put it among his private letters, and so it did not reach the proper hands.

I therefore decided that said Brother J. H. W——’s petition to Chapter No. 43, at Lancaster, was false, inasmuch as it stated that he had never been rejected in any Mark or Most Excellent Master’s Lodge or Chapter of Royal Arch Masons, and that he was a rejected candidate, the property of Chapter No. 10, of New Jersey, and that the action of Chapter No. 43 was null and void, and directed that notice thereof be sent to every Chapter in this jurisdiction.

I must exonerate Chapter No. 43 from any intentional violation of the laws of this Grand Chapter or the laws of Masonry.

There are certain points in this case which I now place before the Grand Chapter, and which governed me in the decision I made—

*First.* Said W—— was only made as a sojourner, not a member of Chapter No. 43, and could not, according to Section 51, Article XV of the Constitution of the Grand Chapter, have charges preferred against him, and if found guilty, expelled.

The section of the Constitution reads—“but no Chapter or Lodge shall suspend or expel a Mason who is not a member thereof at the time, nor exercise jurisdiction over any but its own members.”

*Second.* If a candidate does not possess *all* the constitutional requirements, although made in a regular Chapter, the action of the Chapter is null and void.

*Third.* It is our bounden duty to protect the blackball, no matter where deposited.

## DECISIONS.

### PHYSICAL QUALIFICATIONS OF CANDIDATES.

In reply to a question by one of the District Deputy Grand High Priests, I decided that the Constitution of the Grand Chapter, page 40, Article XV, Section 39, prescribes the qualification of a candidate. “That he shall have some visible means of an honest livelihood, be a Past Master either by election or dispensation, in good standing with the fraternity and the Master Mason’s Lodge from which he hails, and competent to perform all the work in the degrees he applies for.”

“If the candidate can comply with all the above requirements, the loss of *three of his fingers of the left hand* should not debar his advancement. To be made a Mason, he must be a perfect man and sound in all his limbs and members; to be advanced in Masonry, he must be able to do the work and prove himself an expert workman.”

### RIGHT OF HIGH PRIEST TO PROVIDE BANQUET.

The following has also been asked :

“Has the High Priest of a Chapter of Royal Arch Masons the right to appoint a committee to provide a banquet, without first receiving the official sanction of the Chapter to such expenditure of the funds of the body.”

I decided that “the High Priest had no such right—that the Chapter has alone the control of its funds.”



## WHO ELIGIBLE TO OFFICE.

I have also decided that "a Chapter cannot elect one of its members to office, whose permanent residence is outside of this jurisdiction."

The Constitution prescribes that in case any of the officers "remove from the jurisdiction, a special election may be held upon a dispensation granted by the Grand High Priest, on petition of the Chapter." In such a case it would be placing the power in the hands of a majority of the members of a Chapter to remove an officer at pleasure, providing a dispensation could be obtained from the Grand High Priest.

## REFERRING TO APPEALS.

The Committee on Appeals having been applied to by Companions and Chapters against whom appeals have been taken for a copy of the same, and it not being the duty or within the province of that Committee to furnish copies of the appeals referred to them, I have decided that in all cases the party making the appeal must first furnish a copy thereof to the brother or Companion, Lodge or Chapter against whose action the appeal is taken, before it can be considered by the Committee on Appeals.

This petition is based on the ground that, in the case of charges against a Companion, an exact copy of the charges must be furnished the accused; so the appeal is in the nature of a charge, and the Lodge or Chapter, brother or Companion charged with informality or irregularity by the appeal should know the exact nature thereof.

## REFERRING TO DUE NOTICE OF BALLOTING.

The Grand High Priest having been called upon to decide what is the "due notice" or "usual notice" to members of Chapters or Lodges, in cases of second ballots or a ballot on a new petition, as required by Article XV, Sections 43 and 44, of the Constitution of 1871, decided:

That there is nothing in the Constitution of the Grand Chapter requiring notice of meeting or list of candidates to be balloted for to be sent to the members of the Lodges or Chapters, and, unless it has been the custom, or the by-laws require notices to be sent, it is not necessary; but where it has been customary, or the by-laws provide for notice, it must be done.



The issuing of notices containing the list of candidates to be balloted for, has but lately been introduced, and outside of the city of Philadelphia, or one or two of the larger cities and towns, I think, no printed or written notice is sent out at all, either for the meetings or balloting.

It would be sufficient for the High Priest or Worshipful Master to state publicly, in the open Chapter or Mark Lodge, at a time when the attendance of the members is the greatest, that at the next stated meeting a "ballot" or a "reballot," or a "ballot on a new petition," would be taken, and that it would be sufficient notice.

Great care must be taken to give as much publicity as possible to the members, and that the manner of giving "due notice" or the "usual notice" of meetings, &c., must be strictly adhered to in all cases.

#### COMMITTEE OF INVESTIGATION.

I have also decided "that a committee of investigation of the character of a candidate, once appointed, cannot be changed except by a vote of the Chapter; and should a new committee be appointed, (even if two of the old committee are upon it,) they cannot report until the next or some subsequent meeting."

#### USE OF THE NAME OF A CHAPTER IN BUSINESS ADVERTISEMENTS.

Also, "that the name of a Chapter cannot be used to cover the business advertisement of a brother or Companion, or of a profane."

#### LEGALIZING THE CONFERRING OF DEGREES ON REJECTED CANDIDATES.

I desire to ask your earnest attention to a growing tendency manifested by the Grand Chapter in sustaining subordinate Chapters in the open violation of the Constitution of the Grand Chapter, and of the ancient usages of the Fraternity. I refer particularly to the Grand Chapter legalizing the conferring of the degrees on rejected candidates.

It is a well settled fact that a Grand Body cannot force a subordinate to receive as members any but those who have been unanimously approved after ballot, and against whom no objection is made.

The Grand Chapter has full authority to say who shall *not* be eligible to membership in the subordinate Chapters, and among those thus enumerated are those who have *not* received a unanimously favorable report and ballot.

It is the inherent privilege and duty of a Mason to cast the ballot according to the dictates of his own conscience, and in the exercise of that right he cannot be called to an account, unless by his own actions or words he discloses the fact that the ballot was cast through unworthy and unmasonic motives. For an abuse of the ballot he can be dealt with by suspension or expulsion, yet the black ball remains and cannot be removed except by a new ballot, resulting favorably to the candidate.

The Grand Chapter by its Constitution protects in the strongest manner the legitimate use of the black ball. Among the vast prerogatives of the Grand Chapter, and I may say of any other Masonic Grand Body, *there cannot be found any right to declare a candidate pure who has by a subordinate been declared impure.*

It may be unfortunate for a candidate to be maliciously rejected, but it is as unfortunate for the Fraternity to extend such charity to him as would force him into a body in which he knows there is one whose unfavorable ballot against him had not been legally removed.

#### NEGLECT TO STUDY THE CONSTITUTION.

Most of the unconstitutional acts of subordinate Chapters arise from the neglect of the officers and members to study the Constitution of the Grand Chapter, and in their officers not attending the quarterly or annual communications of the Grand Chapter.

The officers of subordinate Chapters have all promised to keep, maintain, support and abide by the Constitution of the Grand Chapter, and to attend the annual and quarterly communications of the Grand Chapter, under certain conditions. A promise having been once made, should be sacred to all Royal Arch Masons.

#### EXEMPLIFICATION OF THE WORK IN NEW YORK.

On the first day of November last, in company with the Grand Pursuivant, Companion John L. Young, it was my privilege to be present at the exemplification of the Royal Arch degree by the Grand Lecturer of New York, in Irving Hall, New York City, under the auspices of one of the subordinate Chapters, in the presence of fifteen hundred Royal Arch Masons. I had the pleasure of meeting Companion Rees G. Williams, Grand High Priest of New York, and his Grand Officers, together with those of Connecticut and New Jersey. The reception accorded to the Grand High Priest of Pennsylvania was of the most cordial character.



New York has placed the entire supervision of the work under the control of a Grand Lecturer, who is responsible alone to the Grand Chapter. As regards the work, his authority is superior to the Grand High Priest.

The work as exemplified was in some portions entirely different from what is known as the work of this jurisdiction. After seeing this exemplification, I am satisfied that the work of Pennsylvania, and the care that is thrown around it to make it uniform and maintain its purity, is the best.

### STATISTICS OF CHAPTERS.

In order to lay before the Grand Chapter the latest information in regard to the Chapters under its jurisdiction, I forwarded circulars of inquiry to the District Deputy Grand High Priest and to the Secretaries of the several Chapters, directing their answers to be made up to the first day of December last.

I also directed that copies of the blank petitions and printed by-laws be forwarded for examination by the Grand High Priest and Committee on By-Laws.

The following is the result of the investigation:

The number of Chapters on December 1, 1872,	. . . . .	85
Mark Lodges,	. . . . .	3
Number of candidates Marked,	. . . . .	685
Number received and accepted Most Excellent Masons,	. . . . .	763
Number exalted Royal Arch Masons,	. . . . .	732

### CHAPTER MEETINGS NOT HELD REGULARLY.

Meetings have not been regularly held by Chapters Nos. 150, 171, 172, 173, 174, 177, 178, 180, 186, 187, 194, 201, 204, 210, 212, 224, 227, 230.

Chapter No. 166, at Hollidaysburgh, has held only four meetings; No. 195, at Johnstown, only five meetings; No. 220, at Fort Washington, no meeting since July.

### CHAPTERS NOT PROPERLY FURNISHED.

The following have not the necessary furniture, robes, &c.:—No. 150, at Washington, no robes and crowns; Nos. 159 and 170, at New Castle, no robes; No. 171, jewels imperfect; Nos. 190, 191, 192 and 194, no crowns for members; No. 213, at Girard, has only the jewels; No. 223, Oxford, no collars for officers.



## PETITIONS INFORMAL.

Many of the Chapters have not as yet complied with the requirements of the Grand Chapter in regard to petitions. In 1870, the Grand Chapter directed that the petitions for the degrees should contain a clause that the candidate had not been heretofore rejected in any Mark Master or Most Excellent Master's Lodge, or Chapter of Royal Arch Masons.

The following have this requirement interlined in their petitions:—Chapters Nos. 208, 219, 220, 223. Mark Lodges Nos. 91 and 216.

The following do not have it either printed or written:—Chapters Nos. 150, 159, 166, 172, 174, 176, 177, 178, 180, 182, 186, 187, 191, 192, 194, 195, 201, 204, 207, 210, 211, 212, 213, 214, 221, 235.

The above Chapters and Mark Lodges will be required to have new petitions printed forthwith.

## CHAPTERS HAVING NO BY-LAWS.

A most important fact has been brought to light, and that is, that so many of the Chapters have no by-laws printed. The officers and members cannot be expected to live up to the laws, if the Chapter neglects so important a matter as furnishing them with a copy of the law they have promised to obey and maintain.

The Constitution requires that every Chapter must have its by-laws printed.

The copies of by-laws I have received will be handed to the Committee on By-Laws for revision, as the new Constitution necessitated many changes.

The following have *no by-laws printed*:—Chapters Nos. 170, 174, 182, 191, 197, 192, 197, 199, 214, 218, 223, 226, 227, 233, 234, 235, 237, 238.

The following have *omitted Article XV* of Constitution of Grand Chapter in the printed form:—Chapters Nos. 177, 180, 187, 220.

This is a part of the by-laws of every Chapter and cannot be omitted.

Chapter No. 163 has *no by-laws at all*, being satisfied to be governed by the Grand Chapter Constitution.

## ORDER OF HIGH PRIESTHOOD.

The Order of High Priesthood has not been conferred on the High Priests of the following Chapters:—Nos. 43, 150, 177, 181, 186, 189, 192, 194, 199, 200, 204, 210, 213, 219.

I would here say, that in accordance with the custom of this jurisdiction, it is just as necessary that the High Priest at the time of his being installed into office should receive the Order of High Priesthood, as that the Master of the Lodge should pass the chair.

I have decided that there is no authority in Pennsylvania to open a council of High Priests. We know of nothing of the kind. The High Priest is installed in a Chapter of Royal Arch Masons, in the presence of High Priests only who have received the Order of High Priesthood, and then the order is conferred on him as part of the qualifications of his office, without ballot or fee.

#### HISTORICAL.

According to promise, Companion William J. Hugan, of England, has furnished the Grand Chapter with a most interesting account of the "Past Master." This will be found in the Appendix "B."

Companion Edward Herrick, Jr., has kindly furnished a copy of the minutes of the Craft Lodge at Tioga Point, referring to the early history of Royal Arch Masonry in northern Pennsylvania. It will be found in the Appendix "C."

It is our duty to do all we can to bring to light the early history of Capitular Masonry in this jurisdiction.

#### CONCLUSION.

And thus, Companions, the year closes. What has been done during the past was done with the best of intentions, and for the advancement of the Grand Chapter.

As we look forward to the future, we anticipate with peculiar pleasure the occupancy of a new Temple, in which the architect and builders have combined all that wisdom, strength and beauty could suggest. How many of us may live to tread its halls, we know not. Before its dedication many may have the veil of the blindness of this world lifted from their eyes and they behold the Master Builder in His eternal temple.

In leaving this old Temple and taking up our abode in the new, may we leave behind us all the bitter animosities, hatred and bickerings of life, and enter upon the discharge of our duties before God and man with a firm determination to live up to our instructions as Royal Arch Masons.

May you and I feel the satisfaction of a peaceful heart and conscience this day twelve months, with nothing to regret during that time.



The Most Excellent Grand High Priest was then pleased to make the following appointments :

Comp.	ROBERT H. PATTISON, D. D.,	<i>Grand Captain of the Host.</i>
"	GEORGE E. WAGNER, - -	<i>Grand Principal Sojourner.</i>
"	JOSEPH S. GEORGE, - -	<i>Grand R. A. Captain.</i>
"	ISAAC MUFF, - - -	<i>Grand Master of 3d Vail.</i>
"	CHARLES H. KINGSTON, -	<i>Grand Master of 2d Vail.</i>
"	GEORGE W. KENDRICK, JR., -	<i>Grand Master of 1st Vail.</i>
"	EDWARD MASSON, - -	<i>Grand Marshal.</i>
"	DEWEES J. MARTIN, M. D., -	<i>S. G. Master of Ceremonies.</i>
"	THOMAS R. PATTON, - -	<i>J. G. Master of Ceremonies.</i>
"	JOHN L. YOUNG, - - -	<i>Grand Pursuivant.</i>
"	CHARLES SCHNIDER, - -	<i>Grand Tyler.</i>

#### GRAND CHAPLAINS.

Reverend Companion	JOHN CHAMBERS,
"	" JOSEPH CASTLE,
"	" ALEXANDER M. WIGGINS,
"	" EMANUEL OPPENHEIM,
"	" WILLIAM B. WOOD,
"	" B. H. HUNT,
"	" LEIGHTON COLEMAN,
"	" DANIEL WASHBURN,
"	" WILLIAM C. ROBINSON,
"	" JUSTUS T. UMSTEAD,
"	" GEORGE W. MACLAUGHLIN,
"	" THOMAS J. DAVIS,
"	" JAMES MACGOWAN,
"	" THOMAS A. FERNLEY.

#### COMMITTEE ON WORK.

Comp. GEORGE W. WOOD,	Comp. DANIEL THOMPSON,
" HARMAN BAUGH,	" MICHAEL NISBET,
Comp. JOHN THOMSON.	

#### COMMITTEE ON FINANCE.

Comp. CONRAD B. DAY,	Comp. M. RICHARDS MUCKLÉ,
" DENNIS F. DEALY,	" HORACE FRITZ,
Comp. JOHN J. HEISLER.	



## COMMITTEE ON CORRESPONDENCE.

Comp. WILLIAM J. KELLY,                  Comp. JAMES H. HOPKINS,  
“ GEORGE A. JENKS,                  “ BERNARD E. LEHMAN,  
Comp. WM. AUGUSTUS MORTON.

## COMMITTEE ON BY-LAWS.

Comp. J. ALEXANDER SIMPSON, Comp. ROBERT B. SALTER,  
 “ GEORGE J. BECKER, “ EDWARD STRICKLAND,  
 Comp. JOHN W. LEE.

## COMMITTEE ON APPEALS.

Comp. MICHAEL NISBET,  
“ HENRY J. WHITE,

Comp. ALFRED R. POTTER,  
“ CHARLES D. FREEMAN,  
Comp. DAVID B. TAYLOR.

COMMITTEE ON CHARITY.

Comp. HENRY L. SINEXON,      Comp. WILLIAM T. TAYLOR, M.D.,  
 “ WILLIAM H. VIGUERS,      “ JACOB ROBERTS, M. D.,  
                                 Comp. ALFRED T. JONES.

## COMMITTEE ON PRINTING AND PUBLISHING.

Comp. JAMES BLELOCH,  
“ R. LLOYD LEE,

Comp. JOHN H. ISRAEL,  
“ THOMAS JACOBS,  
Comp. JAMES M. BEATTY.

## DISTRICT DEPUTY GRAND HIGH PRIESTS.

- 1.—Companion CHARLES M. HOWELL,  
Of Lancaster, for Counties of Lancaster, York and Perry.
- 2.—Companion Rev. JOSEPH S. EVANS,  
Of West Chester, for Counties of Chester and Delaware, except Chapter No. 198, at  
Phoenixville.
- 3.—Companion ROBERT H. THOMAS,  
Of Mechanicsburg, for Counties of Cumberland, Franklin and Adams.
- 4.—Companion JOSEPH L. LEMBERGER,  
Of Lebanon, for Counties of Lebanon, Dauphin and Berks.
- 5.—Companion HENRY A. WILTBERGER,  
Of Allentown, for Counties of Northampton, Lehigh and Carbon.
- 6.—Companion THADDEUS S. HILLARD,  
Of Wilkesbarre, for Counties of Luzerne, Pike and Monroe.
- 7.—Companion JOHN H. DUSENBURY,  
Of Great Bend, for Counties of Susquehanna, Sullivan and Wayne.

- 8.—Companion WILLIAM A. PECK,  
Of Towanda, for Counties of Bradford and Wyoming.
- 9.—Companion ROBERT C. SIMPSON,  
Of Wellsboro', for Counties of Tioga, Potter and McKean.
- 10.—Companion CHRISTIAN FREDERICK KNAPP,  
Of Bloomsburg, for Counties of Columbia, Montour, Union and Snyder.
- 11.—Companion GEORGE S. SNYDER,  
Of Williamsport, for Counties of Lycoming, Clinton, Centre and Northumberland.
- 12.—Companion CHARLES R. EARLEY, M. D.,  
Of Earley, for Counties of Elk and Cameron.
- 13.—Companion EDMUND H. TURNER,  
Of Saxton, for Counties of Blair, Cambria, Huntingdon, Mifflin, Juniata, Bedford and Fulton.
- 14.—Companion WILLIAM CHATLAND,  
Of Brownsville, for Counties of Washington, Fayette, Green and Somerset.
- 15.—Companion GETER C. SHIDLE,  
Of Pittsburg, for Counties of Allegheny, Westmoreland, Armstrong, Butler, Indiana and Beaver.
- 16.—Companion ZARAH C. McCULLOUGH,  
Of Clearfield, for Counties of Clearfield and Jefferson.
- 17.—Companion CHRISTIAN M. HOOVER,  
Of Franklin, for Counties of Clarion, Venango and Warren.
- 18.—Companion FRANK H. FOSTER,  
Of Meadville, for Counties of Mercer, Lawrence, Crawford and Erie.
- 19.—Companion SAMUEL BROWN, JR.,  
Of Norristown, for Counties of Montgomery and Bucks, and Chapter No. 198, at Phoenixville.
- 20.—Companion GEORGE P. OWEN,  
Of Tremont, for the County of Schuylkill.

The Most Excellent Grand Secretary appointed Companion J. ALEXANDER SIMPSON as Deputy Grand Secretary; which appointment was confirmed by the Grand Chapter.

The Grand Chapter closed in peace at 8 o'clock 20 minutes P. M.

JOHN THOMSON,  
*Grand Secretary.*

Grand Chapter of Pennsylvania.

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## APPENDIX

TO

PROCEEDINGS OF 1872:

CONTAINING

*Addresses delivered at Grand Visitations.*

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LETTER FROM COMPANION WM. J. HUGHAN, ON THE PAST MASTER.

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EXTRACT FROM THE

RECORDS OF CHAPTER No. 70, ATHENS, PA., JULY 10, 1816.

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HISTORICAL SKETCHES OF CHAPTERS Nos. 52 and 91.

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REPORT ON CORRESPONDENCE.

---

LETTER OF INSTRUCTIONS TO THE DISTRICT DEPUTY GRAND HIGH PRIESTS.

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Statistics of Subordinate Chapters and Lodges.

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REPRESENTATIVES TO AND FROM GRAND CHAPTERS.

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DISTRICT DEPUTY GRAND HIGH PRIESTS.





## APPENDIX "A."

### ADDRESS DELIVERED AT GRAND VISITATION

TO

Chapters Nos. 3, 52, 91, 169, 175, 183, 208, 226, 232, 233,

BY THE

M. E. GRAND HIGH PRIEST.

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#### COMPANIONS :

In accordance with the requirements of the Constitution of the Grand Chapter, I am present with you this evening in company with my Grand Officers and several of the Past Grand High Priests for the purpose of paying you an official visitation.

The forms and ceremonies of this occasion may appear to some to be of a trivial nature, but, to the thinking Royal Arch Mason, they have a deep significance. By it the Grand Chapter, through the Grand High Priest, manifests its paternal love and care for its offspring; and your Chapter, through the High Priest, tender to the executive head of the Grand Chapter their affection for and fealty to the parent body, the principal object being the examination into the past and present condition of the Chapter, and if necessary, correct such errors as may have occurred either through ignorance of the law or neglect of duty, give advice where necessary, that the future may be an improvement on the past, and finally to call attention to such subjects as may be thought necessary by the Grand High Priest or the Grand Chapter.

A punctual attendance at the meetings, is one of the duties a Royal Arch Mason owes to himself and the Chapter. One of the old charges reads: "From antient times no Master or Fellow could be absent from his Lodge, especially when warned to appear, without incurring severe censure, unless it appeared to the Master that pure necessity hindered him."

The prosperity of a Chapter depends in a great measure on the ability and assiduity of its officers, both elected and appointed, and on the regular and punctual attendance of the members.

The officers make many personal sacrifices, oftentime neglecting

their own personal comfort for the meetings of the Chapter, and it is most disheartening to them oftentimes to see so few of the members present.

It seems that a large number of Royal Arch Masons care only for a scanty knowledge of the degrees they have received, or else their applications were made from idle curiosity, mercenary or other improper motives. They are Royal Arch Masons in name, not in heart. They have truly been led by a way they have not known, darkness has been made light before them, but they have shut their eyes and hearts to a true comprehension of that light. They are only to be seen in the Chapter on the night of the annual supper, or at the election for officers, when they come to vote for some favorite candidate of whose qualifications they have had no opportunity to judge.

There are also those who make it a practice to attend the Chapter at every meeting, remaining until the degrees are to be conferred, when they embrace the first opportunity to retire, many times leaving the High Priest with scarcely enough members to fill the chairs, and he is obliged to call for assistance upon members of other Chapters who are more courteous and better Royal Arch Masons than his own members.

For some there are no doubt valid excuse, but the many can have none except indifference and want of respect to the officers.

I would here ask your earnest attention to the duty you owe to the applicants for the degrees.

First, at the Ballot Box. Standing upon Holy Ground in Masonry, as you advance towards the altar upon which lies open at all times God's Law to man, the Great Light in Masonry, admonishing you to do unto others even as you would that they should do unto you, casting aside all malice and personal feeling, you should deposit that ballot with secrecy and before God with honesty of purpose and justice towards the candidate and your Chapter, with *secrecy* that you may feel the full responsibility resting on you alone and that the peace and harmony of the Chapter may not be disturbed. Standing before God and your Companions with that little ballot in your hand, pause to consider if you are doing right or wrong, and bear this in mind, that the dropping of that little ball is a small affair, but the effect of it for good or evil cannot be calculated.

But your duty to the candidate does not end here. Should he be approved, he is entitled to receive the degrees. He comes to you rely-



ing implicitly on your honor. He has a right of demanding that the degrees should be conferred in full, not hurried through, cut short, or lightly passed over, because you have a certain amount of work you want to do, or you must close at a certain hour, or that you must attend to other engagements elsewhere. You have demanded a certain price for the conferring of the degrees, he has paid it, and is entitled to receive the degrees in full, word for word. He applies to you also as a gentleman and a Mason, and must receive the treatment of a gentleman and a Mason.

Your Chapters are dedicated to God, are opened in His holy name, He is called to witness your solemn ceremonies, and he who would introduce levity into any part of our ceremonies, deserves the severest censure and punishment from the hands of the High Priest and his Companions.

The Exhortation in the Royal Arch degree says:

“Now, we command you, Brethren, that ye withdraw yourselves from every brother that walketh disorderly, and not after the tradition which ye receive of us.”

And one of the questions which is asked of the High Priest previous to his installation, and to which he must give his assent, reads: “Do you solemnly promise that you will redouble your endeavors to correct the vices, purify the morals, and promote the happiness of your Companions who have attained this supreme degree; that, to the utmost of your power, you will preserve the solemnities of our ceremonies, &c.”

You, Most Excellent High Priest, will be held responsible for the good order of your Chapter, and you will be upheld by the Grand High Priest and Grand Chapter in the preservation of the same. Rather close the entrance to the Arch entirely that no one else could pass, than that a single candidate should be insulted or maltreated.

The Grand High Priest has pledged himself to see that the Constitution, Rules, Regulations and Edicts of the Grand Chapter are lived up to, and that all, both he and you, must strictly obey them. The Grand High Priest does not make the law; he is responsible that it is not openly violated, and with impunity. Every true Royal Arch Mason will aid him in doing his duty. One, two, or more, cannot put themselves up in opposition to the law. If it is not agreeable, let them go to the Grand Chapter and have it repealed—but, I ask all, that as long as it is a part of the law to obey it, I shall, to the best of my ability, do my duty.

The Constitution describes explicitly the regalia of subordinate Chapters; the style and material of the robes and crowns; the size, style and quality of the jewels for the officers and past officers, and the manner in which said jewels are worn. Of late there is a growing tendency to innovation in the regalia of subordinate Chapters.

Until within a few years Chapters confined themselves strictly to the regulations, but gradually changes have been made both in size, style and manner of wearing, which, if not checked, will lead to unforeseen extravagance and create jealous and unmasonic feelings. The clothing as prescribed by the Constitution of the Grand Chapter must be strictly adhered to, in the aprons, collars, jewels, crowns and robes.

I would caution you, my Companions, against receiving instruction in the work from unauthorized parties. The Grand Chapter, in 1858, adopted a work that has, from time to time, been reaffirmed.

The only lawful authority in the work is the Grand High Priest, Grand King and Grand Scribe, the Committee on Work, or some Companion specially authorized under the seal or sanction of the Grand High Priest. The Grand Officers and Committee on Work are willing and ready at all times to give instruction, or authorize some Companion to give instruction in the work of this Grand Chapter.

The work, when well done, is beautiful in its simplicity, depending upon no theatrical or scenic display to make it effective and impress it deeply upon the mind of the candidate. There is no doubt that the neglect of many of the members of the Chapter in attending the meeting is owing to the fact that the officers of the Chapter are derelict in their duties; they either do not do their own work and call upon others to do it for them, or else do it in such a bungling manner that the members are disgusted and ashamed of their Chapter. We all have a certain pride in anything with which we are associated, and those in authority should endeavor, by all means in their power, to encourage it. There is no good reason why, in a good working Chapter, that any one of its members should not be able to do the work in a perfect manner. It is the officer's bounden duty, sworn to at the installation, to perform all the duties of the office, and to do the work, not to call upon others, but do it himself. The Grand Chapter cannot shut its eyes to an open violation of the obligation of office in this matter.



Companions, I would call your attention to the charge given to a Royal Arch Mason at his exaltation.

“The rites and mysteries developed in the Royal Arch degree have been handed down through a chosen few, unchanged by time and uncontrolled by prejudice; and it is expected they will be regarded by you with the same veneration, and transmitted with the same scrupulous purity to your successors. No one can reflect on the ceremonies of gaining admission into this place without being forcibly struck with the important lessons which they teach.

“Here we are necessarily led to contemplate with gratitude and admiration the sacred source whence all earthly comforts flow; here we find additional inducements to continue steadfast and immovable in the discharge of our respective duties; and here we are bound by the most solemn ties to promote each other’s welfare and correct each other’s failings, by advice, admonition and reproof. By paying due attention to its teachings, we expect you will never recommend any candidate to this Chapter whose abilities and knowledge of the preceding degrees you cannot fully vouch for, and whom you do not firmly and confidently believe will conform to the principles of our fraternity, and fulfil the obligations of a Royal Arch Mason. While such are your members, you may expect to be united in your object without lukewarmness, inattention or neglect; but zeal, fidelity and affection will be the distinguishing characteristics of our society, and that satisfaction, harmony and peace may be enjoyed at your meetings which no other society can afford.

“The degree of a Royal Arch Mason is of so sublime a nature, that none should be admitted but men of the best character and respectability; open, generous and liberal in their sentiments, totally devoid of all superstitions, bigotry and false persuasions.

“And now, my Companions, may you be so guided by the beautiful precepts of Royal Arch Masonry, and governed by its maxims, as never to deviate from the paths of honor and virtue, and become shining ornaments of all that is great and good.”

Companions, I cannot close these ceremonies without once more using the beautiful language of our ritual:

“May your Chapter become beautiful as the temple, peaceful as the ark, and sacred as the most holy place. May your oblations of piety and praise be grateful as the incense, your love warm as its flame, and your charity diffusive as its fragrance. May your hearts



be pure as the altar, and your conduct as acceptable as the offering. May the exercises of your charity be as constant as the returning wants of the distressed widow and helpless orphan. May the approbation of Heaven be your encouragement, and the testimony of a good conscience your support. May you be endowed with every good and perfect gift while travelling the rugged path of life, and finally admitted within the veil of Heaven to the full enjoyment of life eternal."

## APPENDIX "B."

### Letter of Companion William J. Hughan on the "PAST MASTER."

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TRURO, ENGLAND, *October 1, 1872.*

MY DEAR FRIEND AND M. E. GRAND HIGH PRIEST:

I am anxious to write you *re*, the Past Master's Degree, according to promise made by me last year, and desirous of doing so before your next annual meeting.

As a fact, however, I have found it a most difficult subject to write about, as so little is discoverable of its early history.

When the Degree first took its rise I know not as yet, but am continuing my researches, and may yet be able to elucidate the point. I might write a great deal on the subject, but *cui bono*? A deal would be purely apochryphal, and so, is better left unsaid than written.

It seems to have been the custom (in fact *was*) of the "Grand Lodge according to the old Constitutions" (called the "*Ancients*") to confer the Past Master's Degree in a Craft Lodge to candidates for Royal Arch Masonry. No separate Chapters or warrants were required to work the Royal Arch Degree under the "*Ancients*," and it seems to me most probable that the "Installation Ceremony" originated with that Body; at least became prominent, and a separate *Degree* under their management. If so, it is not older than, say about 120 years. The Grand Lodge of the "*Ancients*" was not actually formed, and no regular Records kept, until after A. D. 1750. The minutes still exist, and commence A. D. 1752. The Grand Lodge of England is the custodian thereof.

Whether the regular Grand Lodge, or in other words, the Grand Lodge which was formed A. D. 1717, had a knowledge of the DEGREE so early as 1750, I cannot yet say positively, although there does appear evidence that a ceremony of some sort was observed at the installation of a Worshipful Master of a Lodge. In the Consti-

tution of the Grand Lodge of England, published A. D. 1738, there is an engraving of the "47th Problem of Euclid," which is the Jewel of the Past Master's Degree.

Under the "Moderns" (so called, or the Grand Lodge of 1717) separate warrants were required to work the "Royal Arch," as that Degree was not actually recognized until the "Union of 1813." (It *virtually* was, however, as the leading members of Grand Lodge, from the Grand Master downwards, were the officers of the Grand Chapter.) Their first Royal Arch Constitution was published A. D. 1778, and second edition, 1782, both of which I have. The use of substitutes, or any law requiring a *certain number* to be exalted, was unknown. Since the "Union of A. D. 1813," the Past Master's Degree has been confined to the *elected* Master of a Lodge, and to such alone. Hence all Past Masters in England, have actually served the office of Master of a Lodge for a period of twelve months. The only prerequisite, masonically, for Royal Arch Masonry, being twelve months a member of the Third Degree. Until recently, in Scotland, the system of Capitular Freemasonry prevailing in the United States was adopted, but at the Grand Lodge held the 5th February last, it was decided to return to the old English system, and hence the Grand Chapter of Scotland has retired from the control of the Past Master's Degree, and left it entirely in the hands of the Grand Lodge.

The following are the terms of the agreement :

1. That the Grand Lodge shall recognize a Ceremonial or Degree to be conferred on Masters of Lodges on their taking the Chair of a Lodge similiar to that conferred in England and Ireland.

2. That a Register shall be kept by the Grand Clerk of Installed Masters, and he shall record the name of every Installed Master therein, and furnish a diploma upon a certificate being sent, signed by three recorded Installed Masters, that the Ceremonial or Degree has been duly conferred. The fee for registration and diploma to be 2s. 6d.

3. That this Ceremonial or Degree shall under no circumstances whatever be conferred on any one except the actual Master of a Lodge, or one who produces a certificate from the Lodge that he has occupied a chair as duly elected Master.

4. That with the view of carrying out these resolutions, three or more Masters of Lodges or Past Masters, to be selected by the Grand Lodge, shall procure themselves duly installed by three or



more English or Irish Installed Masters, and shall thereupon adjust the Ritual to be used in future.

5. That thereafter the said Installed Masters shall duly install three or more Past Masters in the cities of Glasgow, Aberdeen, Dundee, Perth, &c., and in any of the larger towns, the Brethren in which may desire it.

6. That the Ceremonial or Degree shall only be conferred when three or more Installed Masters are present, and any Lodge having that number of Installed Masters present at a meeting may confer the Ceremonial or Degree upon its Master ;—but in the event of any Lodge not having a sufficient number of Installed Masters, it shall be competent to the Masters of that Lodge to procure himself duly installed at any Lodge having three Installed Masters, provided he produce evidence to the satisfaction of these Installed Masters that he is a *bona fide* Master of a Lodge.

In Ireland, the Past Master's Degree is also confined (or supposed to be) to the Masters *elect* of Craft Lodges, and a ceremony of some sort is worked, as in England, and as it is to be now in Scotland. The ceremony itself is most interesting and rather lengthy. The charges to the officers are valuable if only followed as they should be, and altogether an installation according to the English Ritual is most imposing.

In Ireland there is much irregularity as to the installation ceremony, but the three countries now agree in having a distinct ceremony or degree, for the Worshipful Master elect of a Craft Lodge, and more correctly speaking, it should be termed the Installation Master's Degree, rather than the Past Master's.

With every respect and good wishes to you, Most Excellent Grand High Priest, and the Supreme Grand Chapter,

Believe me, fraternally and faithfully yours,

WILLIAM JAMES HUGHAN.

## APPENDIX "C."

Extract from the Records of Washington Lodge,  
No. 70, Athens, Penna., July 10, 1816.

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To G. A. BAKER,

*Grand Secretary of the Grand Lodge:*

In conformity with a resolution of Washington Chapter of Royal Arch Masons, held under warrant of Lodge No. 70, we address you in discharge of our duty as a Committee appointed for that purpose; which resolution was adopted in consequence of a communication from the Right Worshipful Grand Lodge or Grand Royal Arch Chapter, in which communication we find a clause in the following words, to wit: "That no brother shall be admitted into the Royal Arch Chapter but he who has been regularly and faithfully passed through the three progressive degrees and has filled and performed the office of Worshipful Master in his Lodge to the satisfaction of his brethren, or passed the chair by a dispensation of the Right Worshipful Grand Master upon the recommendation of his said Lodge, to ascertain which, they shall deliver to him in open Lodge, a certificate to the following purport, &c." Before we enter into a disquisition upon this subject, it may not be improper to give you a brief history of our commencing to work on the Royal Arch degree, or to go a little further back, we may bring to your recollection a communication you some years since received from one of this Committee on the subject of the Mark Master's degree. Wishing to work on that degree, we did not know what steps were necessary to obtain authority, and wrote to you on the subject; you answered that we already had the authority to work on that degree, and, on an examination of the warrant of Lodge No. 70, we were of the same opinion, and accordingly went to work on that degree. At this time there were several Royal Arch Masons belonging to Lodge No. 70, and among the rest, the Worshipful Master of said Lodge; but, having received their Masonic education under different regulations from what they found in Pennsylvania, they had no idea they could



go beyond the third degree until the receipt of your letter and a further examination of the warrant aforesaid. It did not even then enter into their minds that they could work on the Royal Arch degree under the same authority. In a year or two after, however, more Royal Arch Masons settled in the vicinity of Lodge No. 70, and having made up the number nine, [that being the least number we could work with on that degree,] we concluded to open a Chapter at Tioga Point\* as soon as we could obtain a warrant for so doing. An application was accordingly drawn up in proper form, addressed to the Right Worshipful Grand Lodge, signed by nine regular Royal Arch Masons, and sent forward by Companion David Paine. When he arrived in Philadelphia he was informed [as we understood] by yourself and other Royal Arch Masons that such a step was not necessary; that our authority was already sufficient under the warrant of Lodge No. 70 to work on that degree, provided we had a sufficient number who were qualified. From this information he procured the robes and implements for the first three officers of the Chapter, which were made in Philadelphia under the direction of Companion —, and by him forwarded to Companion Paine. This mode of proceeding in that degree was so different from what we had been accustomed to, that we were not a little surprised at the account Companion Paine gave us; but on a more strict examination of our warrant and the Constitution of Masonry in Pennsylvania, as contained in the Ahiman Rezon, we became satisfied that we could congregate, &c., and work on the Royal Arch degree. In the Ahiman Rezon, page 50, we find the words: "The Master of a particular Lodge has the right and authority of calling his Lodge, or congregating the members into a Chapter at pleasure," &c. It would be a violation of good sense to say or suppose the Master had a right to congregate the Chapter, and not the power, at the same time, to work as such. But what put the matter beyond all dispute in our minds, was another clause found in the same book, page 104, Article IX, to wit: "The members of the Grand Lodge and all warranted Lodges, so far as they have abilities or numbers, have an undoubted right to exercise all degrees of the Ancient Craft, and consequently the Royal Arch." According to our Masonic education, the degrees of Ancient Masonry are as follows: Entered Apprentice, Fellow Craft, Master

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\* Now Athens, Bradford county.



Mason, Mark Master, Past Master, Most Excellent Master, and Royal Arch Mason; and however honorary some of the degrees may be considered by some, we cannot give a succeeding degree to any one who has not received all the preceding degrees up to the one he applies for, or, in other words, we cannot give the Royal Arch degree to any one who has not received all the six preceding degrees without violating a sacred obligation. You will readily perceive the predicament we are in. Our warrant and the Constitution are void to us beyond the Mark degree if the regulation first quoted is a proper guide to us. At our distance from the Grand Lodge to apply for a dispensation to pass the chair is out of the question, and we must give up our work and lose our apparatus for the Royal Arch degree, unless the Right Worshipful Grand Lodge grants us some relief. We hold the Grand Lodge and Masonry in the highest veneration, and to question the constitutionality of any of the Rules and Regulations adopted by the Grand Lodge for the government of the subordinate Lodges is extremely painful and highly embarrassing to us; but, however much we feel, when duty compels us to speak, we ought to waive every other consideration, and, as Free and Accepted Masons, to speak freely and frankly our minds. On this rule we cannot do otherwise than express our conviction that the rule for a special dispensation to pass the chair is removing the Ancient Landmarks as laid down in the Ahiman Rezon, and setting up new ones which will be difficult for the subordinate Lodges to understand when compared with their warrants and Constitutional Book. In this opinion we may err in judgment, but, if so, the fault is of the head, not the heart! Feeling as we do, we can but request the Grand Lodge to reconsider the regulation now in question, and repeal the same, or to grant us a general dispensation for passing the chair, otherwise we shall suffer in expenses nearly two hundred dollars in the preparation we have made to work on the Royal Arch degree. While on this subject, it may not be amiss to communicate our ideas respecting other matters relative to Masonry; and we would first request the attention of the Grand Lodge to their own Rules and Regulations in connection with the Rules and Regulations of the Grand Royal Arch Chapter, by which it would seem the subordinate Lodges [or such of them as work on the Royal Arch degree] have two Masters to serve, and the danger of that situation may be found in one of the Great Lights in Masonry! and, indeed, may be discovered from observation. There is something in this matter beyond compre-

hension that where knowledge is divided into sections or degrees, that one body of men professing a less number of these degrees, which all collectively make one great whole, should have under rule or subordination another body of men who profess the whole. In fact, it subverts the major to the minor, and seems an inversion of order. In Masonry, it seems very clear that no body of men can have jurisdiction beyond their knowledge of the subject, therefore, the Grand Lodge, to superintend the whole of Masonry, should profess all the degrees belonging thereto, otherwise they cannot judge correctly of the manner in which those who profess the whole, or higher degrees, should be regulated. That the Grand Royal Arch Chapter is under subordination to the Grand Lodge, we believe, is not to be questioned, when, in fact, not all the special members of the Grand Lodge are Royal Arch Masons, and much less the members of the Grand Lodge generally. Here there appears the difficulty so hard to be reconciled to the natural and beautiful order of Masonry. From this view of the subject, and many others we could suggest, but which will naturally arise in every reflecting mind, would it not be well for the Grand Lodge, in connection with the Grand Royal Arch Chapter, to call a convention by summoning the members of the Grand Lodge generally, and the Chiefs of the Chapters under the jurisdiction of the Lodges? This measure seems not only a proper one to us, on account of what is stated above, but for many other reasons distinct from that particular subject. We are averse in general to pulling down old Constitutions and setting up *new ones*; but many things in our present Constitution, we humbly conceive, may be altered for the better, and to suppose that things of this nature cannot be amended for the better, is to suppose that human knowledge is not progressive, and that we have already arrived at the summit and extent of human understanding in Masonry. A call for this purpose, we firmly believe, would give general satisfaction in the end, and contribute much in promoting good order, harmony and unanimity among the Craft.

Fraternally yours,

JOSEPH KINGSBURY,  
STEPHEN HOPKINS,  
EDWARD HERRICK.

Copied from the original record book now in my possession,  
February 14, 1872.

EDWARD HERRICK, JR.  
*District Deputy Grand Master.*



## APPENDIX "D."

### HISTORICAL SKETCH OF HARMONY CHAPTER, No. 52,

BY

CHARLES E. MEYER, M. E. Grand High Priest,

READ AT THE

GRAND VISITATION, APRIL 5, 1872.

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#### COMPANIONS OF HARMONY CHAPTER, No. 52:

The minutes of a Chapter contain its history. It benefits us oftentimes to look at the past, for the good will linger pleasantly upon our minds, reminding us of the days of long ago.

Let us spend a short time in a review of your early history.

The history of Harmony Chapter, No. 52, is of a very interesting nature. Organized on April 28, 1794, under the warrant of Harmony Lodge, No. 52, it joined with several Royal Arch Masons, members of Lodges Nos. 19 and 67, in forming an irregular Grand Chapter, for which action, on November 23, 1795, the warrants of the three Lodges were suspended. On the same day, the present Grand Chapter of Pennsylvania was instituted, under the immediate sanction of the Right Worshipful Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania.

On November 27, 1795, the Grand Master, Right Worshipful Brother William Ball, congratulated the Grand Lodge on the dissolution of the irregular Grand Chapter and the renewal of harmony in the craft, when the warrants of Nos. 19, 52 and 67 were restored to the members thereof.

The next we learn of Chapter No. 52 is on March 15, 1801, on which date the Grand Lodge was convened for the purpose of hearing the report of a Committee appointed December 18, 1800, to inquire into the case of Brother Collins, who had been exalted in Chapter No. 52 before he had passed the chair; the Grand Lodge then declared that no brother could be passed to the chair without first having been duly elected Worshipful Master of a Lodge, or



having obtained a dispensation from the Right Worshipful Grand Master for that purpose.

The history of your Chapter from 1801, to January 5, 1814, is not known. In the minute-book of the latter date we find the membership on January 1, 1814, to be as follows: From Lodge No. 2, 6 members; No. 3, 13 members; No. 19, 1 member; No. 51, 14 members; No. 52, 4 members; No. 59, 1 member; No. 67, 20 members; No. 72, 2 members; No. 91, 8 members; No. 102, 5 members; No. 115, 1 member; No. 125, 1 member; No. 126, 1 member; No. 130, 6 members; No. 131, 8 members—in all, 91 members.

The officers were then First Chief, (the minutes of January 5, 1814, speak of the Most Excellent High Priest,) Second Chief, Third Chief, Treasurer, Recorder, First Grand Master, Second Grand Master, Third Grand Master, Zerubbabel, Sojourner, Tyler, Royal Arch Captain, Stewards.

A desire was manifested that all should be properly clothed, for on May, 4, 1814, three dozen crowns were ordered for the use of the members; the bill for which was presented February 1, 1815, for \$37.81¼.

July 22, 1814, a petition was received from Brother Calvin Wetherbe, of King Solomon's Lodge, Charlestown, Massachusetts, who had passed the chair by virtue of a dispensation from the Grand Master in Lodge No. 67, Philadelphia. It was then the custom for the Grand Master to issue such dispensations.

A curious custom was at this time introduced—it was that of charging visitors twenty-five cents for the privilege of visiting. The receipts, however, were not large from this source.

On December 7, 1814, "Companion Whittaker, of Rhode Island, begged the Chapter would favor him with one of our blank certificates, that he might get a plate engraved somewhat similar for the Chapter of which he is a member; which, on motion made and seconded, the Recorder was ordered to give him."

Among those who were exalted in the Chapter, who were members of Lodges in other jurisdictions, we find on the returns for January 1, 1815, the names of

PETER BREDERBACK,	No. 19, N. J., exalted April 6, 1814.
RICHARD GARDNER KENDALL,	No. 19, " " April 6, 1814.
ADAM CLARK,	No. 19, " " May 4, 1814.
JOHN ELWELL,	No. 19, " " May 3, 1815.
ABEL HALL,	No. 19, " " Sept. 18, 1815.

We may form some idea of the furniture and clothing of the Chapter and its officers from the minutes of March 1, 1815, when, on motion, it was *Resolved*, "That a Committee be appointed to procure a suitable dress for Companion Sojourner, and that they be authorized to get any additional dresses that they may find necessary for the Grand Masters and Zerubbabel, and to get the dresses of the Chiefs cleaned."

April 3, 1816, it was *Resolved*, "That the inner vail of the Temple be cleaned."

January 1, 1817, it was, on motion, *Resolved*, "That a Committee be appointed to procure a new Arch and other articles that may be necessary for the use of this Chapter."

June 4, 1817, on motion made and seconded, it was unanimously resolved that a Committee be appointed to request permission of the Grand Lodge to have an Arch erected in the Chapter room.

On October 4, 1815, the first Grand Visitation to the Chapter was made. The minutes read: "The Most Excellent High Priest as Grand Master of Masons for the State of Pennsylvania, and the Grand and other officers of the Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania being Royal Arch Masons, were admitted as visitors, with the usual ancient formalities, and the Most Excellent High Priest, in his appropriate situation, delivered a suitable address to the Chapters, more particularly addressed to the Companions exalted at this meeting." This shows how little change has been made in the work, when we have the same forms and ceremonies on such occasions now as at that time.

Merit was rewarded when deserved, for the Chapter was so well pleased with the manner in which Companion George E. Blake, the former Most Excellent First Chief, had performed the duties of his office, that a Committee was appointed on March 6, 1816, to procure an appropriate medal and present it as a compliment to him for his eminent services in this Chapter. The cost of the medal was \$70.

January 7, 1818, a jewel was presented to another retiring High Priest, the cost of which was \$52.50.

All applications for charity were closely examined as to their worthiness. July 3, 1816, in the case of an applicant for charity, the Committee reported "that they did not feel themselves authorized to grant him the charity of this Chapter, believing his industry, if well applied, to be adequate to his necessities, and, therefore, he is not entitled to Masonic relief."



On February 5, 1817, a number of the most prominent members having the good of Royal Arch Masonry at heart, presented the following petition to the Chapter :

*To the High Priest, King and Scribe and Companions of Harmony Royal Arch Chapter, No. 52, held in the City of Philadelphia :*

RESPECTED COMPANIONS: The petition of the subscribers respectfully sheweth that they are regular Royal Arch Masons, and, at present, members of your Chapter ; but, being anxious of forming a new Royal Arch Chapter under the Blue Warrant of Concordia Lodge, No. 67, held in this city, beg leave to solicit your approbation so to do, and also to request the favor of you to have the privilege of making use of the jewels, &c., of and belonging to your honorable body. We also pray you, at the same time, to accept our resignation from your Royal Arch Chapter, and we will, as in duty bound, ever pray the Supreme Architect may bless and prosper your labors. Philadelphia, January 15, 1817.

Signed by Josiah S. Kay, Charles Budd, William Stratton, John L. Baker, S. P. Barbier, Wm. Hankinson, James McKeage, Jacob Cash, Jr., Pierre Wood, H. King, John Thomas, Benjamin Moliniaux, John W. Kelly, John Harland, Elisha L. Antrim, Jonathan Johnson, Caleb Dobbins, Thomas S. Manning, John Scotti, Joshua Kersey, Richard Tice, John H. Starr.

On motion made and seconded, it was resolved unanimously that the prayer of the petitioners be granted.

The Secretary adds in a note: N. B.—It is understood that they will only want our jewels, &c., one year.

June 4, 1817, the old seal of the Chapter was presented to the Grand Chapter, and a Committee appointed to procure a new one.

In the returns for year 1818, Abraham Cohen was reported suspended for nonpayment of dues. The Recorder says: "This Companion ought not to be considered as having deserved censure, he having removed to Baltimore, and the Chapter owed him for Zerubbabel's head-dress, &c., of which no bill was furnished, and he resigned from Blue Lodge, No. 91." No action, however, was taken by the Chapter.

During the year 1819 the Masonic Hall, on Chestnut street, was destroyed by fire, and the Chapter suffered greatly, as did all the other Masonic bodies. This fire reduced to ashes nearly every thing relating to the early history of Masonry in this jurisdiction.



On April 7, 1819, on motion, it was *Resolved*, That a Committee be appointed to inquire into the state of the jewels, furniture, &c., in consequence of the losses by the late fire at the Masonic Hall, Chestnut street.

The Committee reported on May 5, and from their report we learn of what they had saved and what lost. Their report reads: "The Committee appointed to ascertain the loss sustained by the Chapter in jewels, furniture, &c., at the recent conflagration of the Masonic Hall on Chestnut street, respectfully report, that the furniture at present consists of the following articles:—3 sceptres, 1 sword, 24 old crowns, 1 new crown, 1 copy of Holy Bible, complete, 2 volumes ditto Morocco, 1 small Bible, 1 Phillips' Monitor, 6 robes, 7 officers' crowns, 10 officers' aprons, 10 officers' jewels, 31 aprons common, 1 keystone.

"There consequently appears to be the following articles wanting to complete the furniture of the Chapter:—35 new crowns; second volume of the Holy Bible, morocco binding; 3 officers' caps, 4 common aprons, 9 sashes, 1 shovel, crowbar and pickaxe."

On October 6, 1819, a communication was read from Concordia Chapter, No. 67, with resolution appointing a Committee to confer and act in conjunction with Committees from Chapters No. 51 and 52, to procure the necessary apparatus for the Chapter.

May 3 and June 7, 1822, the Most Excellent Master's degree was conferred upon a brother without his having petitioned for the same.

On March 1, 1823, the Chapter closed and a Royal Master's Chapter was opened, the following Companions being present, viz.: Riley, Weaver, Wonderly, Charles Stout of No. 91, Kingsbury, and Farrell, when the following Companions being desirous of receiving this degree were brought forward, and had the degree of Royal Master conferred on them, viz.: Geo. A. Burgin, Erringer, John Brinck and Turk.

Again, on May 15, the Royal Master's degree was conferred on three Companions.

On December, 1824, a resolution was adopted requesting the Grand Chapter to grant them a warrant to hold a Chapter, &c.; which request was granted by the Grand Chapter, and the present warrant under which you now work was issued.

Your Chapter, with Jerusalem, No. 3, and Columbia, No. 91, presents a very curious incident—neither were ever constituted or consecrated: your Chapter, working under the warrant of Harmony

Lodge, No. 52; Jerusalem, No. 3, under the warrant of Lodge No. 3; and Columbia, No. 91, under the warrant of Columbia Lodge, No. 91; and on receipt of warrants from the Grand Chapter, they continued their work as heretofore.

It was customary in those days for a number of Royal Arch Masons, members of Lodges, to meet and ask permission of a Lodge of Master Masons for the use of its warrant, which being granted, a Chapter was opened under its authority, and the Royal Arch degree conferred upon those who had passed the chair, either by election or dispensation.

December 3, 1830, the officers were styled First Chief, Second Chief, Third Chief, Zerubbabel, Principal Sojourner, Master of Third Vail, Second Vail, First Vail, and Royal Arch Captain.

The three Chapters working at this time were No. 3, No. 52 and No. 91. Between Nos. 52 and 91 the minutes show a greater intimacy and intercourse among the members than with those of No. 3. Very few visits are noted from the members of No. 3, but many from 91. Economy seems to have guided every movement. Committees were appointed to meet and act in conjunction with committees from other Chapters to have the vails and other properties used in common put in proper order for use.

On August 5, 1825, Companion Amies offered the following resolution; which was, after some discussion, postponed until the next stated meeting.

*Resolved*, That hereafter the Chapter will uniformly give the degree of Royal Master immediately after that of Most Excellent Master.

Where they obtained a knowledge of the Royal Master's degree is not known. The By-Laws of November 4, 1825, Article VI, reads:

“All applications for membership or exaltation, Royal Master, Most Excellent Master or Mark Master, &c., the report being favorable and the ballot unanimous, he may then be Marked, admitted a Most Excellent, a Royal Master, and exalted the same evening.

September 20, 1826, the Mark degree was conferred for the first time.

On December 6, 1833, a Committee was appointed to act with Committees from other Chapters to open a Lodge of Most Excellent Master Masons. Nothing, however, was done in the matter, and the



interest in Royal Arch Masonry seemed to grow less, when on January 1, 1836, the following was adopted :

*Resolved*, That a committee of three be appointed, to be styled the Committee of Consultation, to meet a like committee that may be appointed by any Chapter meeting in this city, to consult and recommend to the Chapters respectively such measures as in their opinion will be likely to revive and advance the interest of Royal Arch Masonry and the attending degrees.

The Committee appointed were Companions Cooper, Chandler and Riley. This Committee never reported, and on December 2, 1836, the Chapter becoming impatient for the report of several Committees, passed a wholesale resolution, discharging all Committees then in existence who had not reported, thus discharging the Consultation Committee.

Great credit is due to the Chapter for continuing its meeting during the anti-masonic excitement. During the year 1837, but one meeting was held. The Secretary was however at his post every prescribed night of meeting. Several of the members, as at present, failed to pay their dues promptly, and on December 7, 1838, the dues of several Companions were remitted, provided they gave punctual attendance in the future. This action, however, had little or no effect, for the attendance of members was not increased. Up to 1840, the average attendance at the regular meetings was from three to six, and on election night from six to ten members only were present.

From September 20, 1826, to April 5, 1839, the Mark degree was not conferred. At this meeting the degree was conferred for the first time for thirteen years.

The members who attended regularly were rapidly promoted to office, as for instance, Companion Past Grand High Priest E. P. Lescure, who was exalted in May, 1840, at the meeting in December, seven months after, was elected Scribe or Third Chief.

June 5, 1841. A communication was received and read from Phoenix Lodge, No. 130, held in this city, recommending the banishment from our festive boards, &c., of all *intoxicating drinks*. The Secretary, Companion Riley, must have been in favor of the communication, for he took good care to underscore the words "intoxicating drinks." The communication was *ordered to be filed*. Were such a resolution in force at present, it would make our social gatherings of a much more pleasant and agreeable nature.



The minutes show how careful the Secretary was to have everything of interest recorded. On July 1, 1842, they read:—"There was no Chapter opened this evening. There was an unprecedented rain-storm about the time of opening the Chapter, which lasted for about two hours, and according to the rain gauge kept at the Pennsylvania Hospital, there fell during that short period 2.20-100 inches."

In February, 1843, the following was adopted:

*Resolved*, That it is expedient, with the concurrence of No. 91, to procure with that Chapter a set of joint regalia, &c., the jewels of one Chapter for both, which shall nevertheless remain the property of the Chapter to which they may belong.

In 1845, the Companions began to experience the pleasures of meeting around the social board. At the meeting for January of this year Companions E. P. Lescure, Benjamin S. Riley, and A. West, were appointed a Committee to confer with the Auditing Committee to see if there will be enough funds left, after paying all the debts of the Chapter, to have a supper, and if there should be, then to confer with the Committee of 91, and have the supper prepared jointly.

Of the magnificence of this supper we can judge, for at the April meeting the bill of Companion "William B. Snyder, Jr.," for the share of this Chapter was \$15.

The unpleasantness between the several Chapters was soon to cease. On November 7, 1845, Companions Alexander Diamond and Robert McCullough, of Chapter No. 3, stated that they were two of a Committee of Three from their Chapter who were appointed to meet similar Committees that may be appointed by other Chapters for the purpose of seeing if it would not be agreeable for the Chapters meeting in the Hall, to jointly sup together and to fix on a time mutually agreeable to all.

This joint supper took place on St. John's Day night, in the Masonic Hall, at 7½ o'clock; the bill for which was \$21. The custom once commenced did not cease for years. Joint annual suppers were held in 1846, bill \$12; 1847, \$34; 1848, \$29; 1849, \$47; increasing with each year, no doubt as the membership increased.

The members of the present day can easily see how Masonry in this particular has advanced for better or for worse. In 1849, the bill for supper was \$47, or for the three Chapters \$141; and in 1871 the Chapter paid for banquet the sum of \$1897.25.

The work was not the same in all the Chapters, Chapters Nos. 3

and 91 claiming each to have the old and correct work. January 2, 1846, the representatives of this Chapter in the Grand Chapter were instructed to bring before the Grand Chapter the subject of the difference of the work in the three Chapters meeting in this hall.

From 1846 to 1850, the attendance at the meetings was very small, scarcely enough to open. February 6, 1846, but four Companions were present, when the Secretary was requested to address a note to the Treasurer, (Companion Wm. Barger,) stating that "the members would be much pleased to have his attendance at our meetings."

On May 4, 1849, Companion Harman Baugh, of Chapter No. 91, acting as High Priest, a resolution was adopted particularly requesting the three chiefs, or three first officers, to attend at the next meeting at the hour of opening. The officers complied with this request, and *were* present at the opening. From this time your Chapter steadily progressed until the present day—it numbers 499 members. The work done by you during the past year was, to repeat the words of the Most Excellent Grand Secretary, enormous.

Your Chapter is fortunate in having Companion Joseph S. Riley as your Secretary. For forty-nine years, through storm and rain, sickness and trouble, and when the storm of anti-masonry was the heaviest, the manly form of your now venerable Secretary was ever at the front to protect his beloved fraternity. During this long period, he has not been absent from the Chapter for more than twelve meetings. Always at his post, ever ready, Harmony Chapter owes to him more than any one else its present existence. And now full of years, when life has almost lost its charms to him, his love for Masonry—his early love—is unabated. He can truly put to blush many hundreds of those who have been brought to light, within a few years past, for their negligent attendance at the Chapter.

Companion Joseph S. Riley was exalted in Harmony Chapter January 1, 1817, over fifty-five years ago. He was elected Most Excellent Grand High Priest of the Grand Chapter in 1828, and is now its oldest living Past Grand High Priest. Companions, you are honored in his membership. The poet truly says :

"Age sits with decent grace upon his visage,  
And worthily becomes his silver locks ;  
He wears the marks of many years well spent,  
Of virtue, truth well tried, and wise experience."



Among those who have enjoyed the confidence of the Companions, and been elevated to the office of High Priest, are many who have passed away we trust to another and happier world. Many of your members can call to mind, among others, Companions Past High Priests Thomas Amies, Francis Cooper, William Barger, Ezra W. Smith, and Lambert Keating.

Some again have been called from your midst to fill the highest office in the gift of the Royal Arch Craft. Companions Joseph S. Riley, Joseph R. Chandler, Jno. McGrath, Edward P. Lescure, Daniel Thompson, and George Griscom, have all served as Grand High Priest. You can truly be proud of those whom you have had to preside over you.

Several of your number are now treading slowly, but surely, onward to their last home. They have seen many a time the "dust return to dust," and soon we shall see that to them "earth returns to earth," and the sprig of acacia, our emblem of immortality, is deposited in their graves.

Companions, make much of these old fathers in Israel, these Landmarks in Masonry. They were in times long passed, the pillars of strength in Royal Arch Masonry. They have lived up to their obligations, and transmitted to us, their successors, Royal Arch Masonry as they received it.



## APPENDIX "E."

### HISTORICAL SKETCH OF COLUMBIA CHAPTER, No. 91,

BY

CHARLES E. MEYER, M. E. Grand High Priest,

READ AT THE

GRAND VISITATION, APRIL 17, 1872.

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Companions, a calm review of the past oftentimes will be instructive and interesting, and by a comparison with the present may prove of use in the future.

Thinking you would be interested, I have prepared the following hasty sketch of the early history of Columbia Chapter, No. 91, one of the few Chapters in this jurisdiction that has never been constituted or consecrated.

The history of the Royal Arch Degree in this country is peculiar, and particularly so within the Masonic jurisdiction of Pennsylvania. Differing greatly from the surrounding jurisdictions in the form and manner of Ancient Craft Masonry, her peculiarities were carried up into the Royal Arch.

At first working in Blue Masonry, under the warrant of the (so-called) "Moderns," with Benjamin Franklin as Provincial Grand Master, her system of work was soon merged into that of the system of the (so-called) "Ancients," and under its fostering care Royal Arch Masonry was first introduced into this country, some time prior to 1758. This date we have only from tradition. Written testimony can, however, be produced in the minute-book of Lodge No. 3, as far back as 1767, and that speaks of the minutes of a former meeting having been read and approved.

Up to the year 1794, there was but one Chapter in existence, and that was No. 3. In that year Harmony Chapter, No. 52, was instituted, and in the year 1795 the first Grand Chapter in America was organized, under the immediate sanction of the Grand Lodge of

Pennsylvania, the Grand Master and officers of the Grand Lodge, who were Royal Arch Masons, being the Most Excellent Grand High Priest and officers of the Grand Chapter.

One of the requirements of a candidate for the degree of Royal Arch Mason was, that he must be a Master Mason who had passed the chair, or more properly speaking, a *geometric* Master Mason properly recommended; "if found worthy and approved, he was admitted, and received the degree of a Holy Royal Arch Mason; retired, was readmitted, returned thanks, received a lecture, and paid his exaltation fee." Such was the candidate's Masonic history from the minute-book.

It was then customary, as an honorarium to the Worshipful Master who had given perfect satisfaction to his Lodge, on the day of his retiring from office, to present him with a certificate, to enable him to obtain admission in the Holy Royal Arch Chapter.

The Deputy Grand Secretary, in reporting on the minutes of Columbia Lodge, No. 91, in November, 1823, says:

"The minutes of August 29, 1822, and December 23, 1822, state, that all the brethren under the degree of Past Master having withdrawn, &c., this is incorrect; the Grand Lodge acknowledges but four degrees in Masonry—the Entered Apprentice, the Fellow Craft, the Master Mason, and the Royal Arch; and, when the Worshipful Master is to be installed, or a brother to pass the chair by dispensation, a Master Mason's Lodge must be opened, and all but Past Masters required to withdraw."

Thus showing how tenaciously our predecessors clung to the good old customs of Masonry.

Very little was then known of the degrees of Mark Master or Most Excellent Master Mason.

The two Chapters, Nos. 3 and 52, for a number of years increased financially and numerically, but, for some cause, there appeared to be no harmony existing between them, but few of the members visiting, and caring very little to maintain that brotherly intercourse which should distinguish all true Masons.

On January 10, 1817, a number of Royal Arch Masons applied to Concordia Lodge, No. 67, for use of their warrant to open a Chapter, which request was granted.

On February 5, 1817, the following petition was presented at a stated meeting of Harmony Chapter, No. 52:



*“ To the High Priest, King and Scribe, and Companions of Harmony Royal Arch Chapter, No. 52, held in the City of Philadelphia :*

“ RESPECTED COMPANIONS :—The petition of the subscribers respectfully sheweth, that they are regular Royal Arch Masons, and at present members of your Chapter ; but being anxious of forming a new Royal Arch Chapter, under the Blue Warrant of Concordia Lodge, No. 67, held in this city, beg leave to solicit your approbation so to do, and also to request the favor of you, to have the privilege of making use of the jewels, &c., of and belonging to your honorable body. We also pray you at the same time, to accept our resignation from your Royal Arch Chapter, and we will, as in duty bound, ever pray the Supreme Architect may bless and prosper your labors.”

Signed by twenty-two Companions, among whom were Stephen P. Barbier, W. Hankinson, Pierre Wood, and Thomas S. Manning.

The prayer of the petitioners was unanimously granted.

The Secretary, so as there might be no misunderstanding, adds a postscript to the minutes :—“ N. B.—It is understood that they will only want our jewels, &c., one year.”

The history of Concordia Chapter, from the organization until the year 1822, is uninteresting, being a mere record of the work done.

The brethren then, as some brethren now, did not pay particular attention to the payment of their annual dues, for in March, 1822, we find Companion Scottie expelled for non-payment of dues ; and a Committee was appointed to wait on the delinquent members and inform them that unless they paid their dues, or made some arrangement to pay the same on or before the next stated meeting, they would be expelled. Motions were customary for many years for the appointment of such committees, and warnings were given to the Companions to pay up their dues.

On April 4, 1822, two Companions were unanimously expelled for non-payment of dues.

But the days of the usefulness of Concordia Chapter, No. 67, was drawing to a close, and its dissolution near at hand.

Among those exalted was one named Pearce, and judging from the minutes, he must have been very obnoxious to the members—no doubt he was one of those who would rule or ruin. To get rid of this Companion Pearce in a lawful manner puzzled the Chapter not a little.

At first mild means were attempted, but without success.



On June 6, 1822, on motion, Companion Stout was appointed to wait upon Companion Pearce, and respectfully request him to withdraw from the Chapter.

On July 4, 1822, Companion Stout reported that he had attended to the duty assigned him, and that said Companion had positively refused to resign his membership in this Chapter; whereupon, on motion, Companions Horten, Kenworthy and Russell were appointed to wait on the Most Excellent Grand High Priest and solicit information how the Chapter should proceed in the above case.

On August 1, 1822, nine members and four visitors being present, the Committee appointed to wait upon the Grand High Priest presented the following report; which was read, amended and accepted.

*“ To the Most Excellent High Priest and Companions of Concordia Holy Royal Arch Chapter, No. 67 :*

“The Committee appointed to wait on the Most Excellent Grand High Priest of the Grand Chapter of the State of Pennsylvania to request his advice on the best and most regular mode of proceeding to secure the honor and, as far as possible, the prosperity of this Chapter, whereby it may be enabled to discharge its just debts, which, at present, it cannot do as long as it retains amongst its members the Companion who has been solicited to withdraw, but who, for reasons known only to himself, refuses to comply with the request of the Chapter, beg leave to lay before the Chapter the advice they received from the Most Excellent Grand High Priest. He proposed to speak to the Companion himself, explaining to him the wishes of the Chapter, and advising him to comply with the same. Should he not be able to succeed, our only mode of proceeding then would be to dissolve the Chapter and return the warrant to the Lodge, and immediately reorganize under another warrant, the new Chapter assuming the debts of the old one. Your Committee would, therefore, close their report by submitting the following resolution :

*“ Resolved, That Concordia Holy Royal Arch Chapter, No. 67, be now dissolved, and that the Most Excellent High Priest be requested to return the warrant, together with the thanks of the Chapter to Concordia Lodge, No. 67, for the use of the same.”*

The resolution was ordered to lie on the table until the next

stated meeting, and the Recorder directed to furnish every member with a copy of the same.

On September 5, 1822, fourteen members being present, Companion Pearce among the number, the resolution was adopted. The Chapter was then closed *sine die*.

I have been thus particular, my Companions, that you may have a perfect understanding of the formation of Columbia Chapter, No. 91.

It will here be seen what measures were adopted in olden times by a Chapter to rid itself of a troublesome member, one who made it a practice to abuse the privilege of the ballot. We have a little different mode of procedure in such cases at present.

Thus closed the Masonic life of Concordia Chapter, No. 67. On September 13, 1822, the warrant was returned to the Lodge with thanks.

On September 18, 1822, a meeting was held of Royal Arch Masons, formerly members of the late Chapter No. 67, and others. Companion Richard Perry was called to the chair, and Companion G. Russell appointed secretary. The object of the meeting having been stated from the chair, and the petition for the use of the warrant of Columbia Lodge, No. 91, and the articles of formation, having been read, they were unanimously adopted.

Whereupon, the following officers were nominated, and unanimously agreed to.

Companion CHARLES STOUT,	.	.	.	.	<i>High Priest.</i>
“ JOHN HORTEN,	.	.	.	.	<i>King.</i>
“ JOHN KENWORTHY,	.	.	.	.	<i>Scribe.</i>
“ THOMAS S. MANNING,	.	.	.	.	<i>Recorder.</i>
“ STEPHEN P. BARBIER,	.	.	.	.	<i>Treasurer.</i>

The warrant of Columbia Lodge, No. 91, was accepted, and the High Priest directed to return thanks of this meeting for the use of the same. The by-laws of the late Chapter No. 67 were changed so as to suit the wishes of the new Chapter, and ordered to be printed. The minutes were then read and adopted. The meeting was then dissolved.

Of the officers here elected, all were members of the late Chapter 67, the two latter having been exalted in, and were formerly members of, Harmony Chapter, No. 52.

On the same evening, Columbia Chapter was opened in ancient



and solemn form. The minutes of the meeting held in the Chapter room preparatory to the formation of this Chapter, were ordered to be transcribed in the minute-book of this Chapter. There were three petitions received, two of them for exaltation as sojourners, and one for exaltation and membership from Companion John Wilson, your oldest living Past High Priest, the father of the present Most Excellent Grand King, my brother and Companion John Wilson, Jr.

To receive the degrees as a sojourner, in those days, the candidate was required to be, in every sense of the word, a sojourner; either one who was passing through the city at the time, or who was transiently residing here. A brother who was a resident at the place of meeting of the Chapter, was not termed a sojourner.

At this first meeting there were present eleven members.

Petitions from sojourners were received at special meetings, and acted upon forthwith, but the candidate was required to pay half the expenses of the meeting, not much at that time it is true, being only \$2.75.

Committees on petitions were not very attentive, for on October 16, 1822, the first stated meeting after formation, the Committee on the petitions of Brothers Wilson and Conover not being all present, on motion, Companions Reid and Barbier were added to the same, with instructions to report forthwith. The minutes are very accurate in describing the manner of work. They read: "The Committee retired, returned and made report, which was read, and the same proving favorable, they were according severally balloted for, and unanimously approved."

Financially the Chapter was strong. The Auditing Committee reported that there was in the hands of Companion Barbier, Treasurer of Concordia Chapter, No. 67, \$26.42½, and of Columbia Chapter, \$54.50.

On December 18, 1822, the first death occurred, being that of Companion George Russell, and as a testimonial of respect to his memory, the Chapter was directed to be put in mourning for the space of twelve months, the expense of which for crape was twenty-five cents.

Great desire was manifested to procure the necessary furniture and regalia, and where the expense was large, committees were appointed to meet committees from other Chapters, and purchase the article for joint use. Nothing was bought until the price was known.



As in all the Chapters in that day, great difficulty was found in collecting the dues. Columbia Chapter, No. 91, was no exception to the general rule. As early as March 25, 1823, a collector was appointed to collect the outstanding dues of late Chapter No. 67.

During the year 1823 the expenses must have been heavy, for the treasury was overdrawn \$59.07½.

Merit was rewarded, and the negligent were discountenanced. On December 17, 1823, a resolution was adopted that, "in consideration of the services rendered this Chapter by Companion Barbier, he be made a member of the same during his natural life, without paying dues."

At this meeting Companion John Wilson was elected Second Chief or King, and Companion Kenworthy, the King or Second Chief, who had been very negligent in his attendance, having been present but two meetings during the year, was not elected to any office, at which he took great offence and tendered his resignation, which was accepted.

August 18, 1824, Companion John Wilson, High Priest, conferred the Royal Arch degree upon your next oldest Past High Priest, Companion Samuel H. Perkins, at that time Worshipful Master of Columbia Lodge, No. 91.

Those who were worthy were quickly advanced, as instanced by Companion Samuel H. Perkins, who was elected Third Chief on December 15, 1824, four months after his exaltation.

It was in the year 1824 that the present Grand Chapter became independent of the Grand Lodge, and on January 19, 1825, the Most Excellent High Priest directed the Secretary to make application to the Grand Chapter for a warrant, with power incorporated, to make Mark Master, Most Excellent Master and Royal Arch Masons.

On March 15, 1825, a warrant in the usual form was granted by the Grand Chapter, which was received and accepted by the Chapter on March 16, 1825.

On April 20, 1825, the Committee on By-Laws made a verbal report that they had drafted a Code of By-Laws, but at present it was in such a crude state that they could not exhibit it for inspection; when, on motion, they were continued. Rather a novel way for a Committee to ask to be continued.

Work was not all that was done at the meetings. The mind was

benefited in more ways than by the simple study of the work. They had a feast of reason and a flow of soul.

April 20, 1825, the minutes read: "Companion T. B. Freeman, in his official capacity of Scribe of the Grand Holy Royal Arch Chapter, attended and installed the respective officers of this Chapter in ancient and solemn form; after which, by particular desire of the High Priest, Companion Freeman delivered a very interesting and appropriate lecture on the Degree of Holy Royal Arch Masonry, which was received by the Companions present with universal satisfaction. Present—eight members and six visitors; rather a small audience.

On August 20, 1828, Companion Dr. Atlee delivered a "spiritualized lecture appertaining to the Holy Royal Arch Degree, which met the universal approbation of every Companion present." This lecture must have been a great success, for on September 17, 1828, he delivered a "spiritualized lecture on the Thirty-ninth chapter of Exodus, verses six and seventh, which received the sanction of every Companion present."

Again, on November 19, 1828, Companion Atlee delivered a third lecture on the "spirituality contained in the verses eight to twenty-one of the Thirty-ninth chapter of Exodus, which received the unanimous approbation of every Companion present."

The Chapter was remarkable for the regularity with which its meetings were held. The first record we find of no meeting being held, was on June 15, 1825. The minutes read: "Only four members being present the Chapter could not be opened." Again, on July 20, 1825, no meeting was held, when the Secretary must have felt in a wonderful good humor, for he has recorded "that nobody being present the Chapter could not be opened." He also notes that there were present on that evening, Companions Wilson, Horten, Perkins and "Old Tom," meaning himself, no doubt. Throughout the entire anti-masonic excitement the meetings were regularly held and the presence noted of Companions John Thomson, Samuel H. Perkins and T. S. Manning.

October 19, 1825, a Bible was ordered, with the words, "Columbia Holy Royal Arch Chapter, No. 91," inscribed on the cover thereof, the entire bill was subsequently presented and was for \$2.25. At this meeting the Most Excellent Master's degree was conferred for the first time.

On December 27, 1825, at 2 o'clock P. M., the High Priest was



installed. A joint petition from three brethren was received for the Mark, Most Excellent and Royal Arch degrees—as sojourners, when the Mark degree was conferred for the first time, and continued to be conferred at nearly every meeting up to the year 1854, when the Chapter agreed to do no more Marking. In 1871, however, the Chapter resolved that the Mark should be conferred again.

A curious fact may also be noted, that at least one-third of the petitions received up to the year 1860, were to receive the degrees as sojourners. At this meeting (of December 27, 1825) the Chapter closed at 6.40 o'clock, having been open four hours and forty minutes, during which the High Priest was installed and the three degrees conferred.

After a careful examination of the minutes of the Grand Chapter and subordinate Chapters, I have not been able to discover where or how the members of the Grand and subordinate Chapters became conversant in the Mark, Most Excellent and Royal Master's degrees. We have records of the degrees being conferred, but nothing to show where the officers acquired a knowledge of the work.

On May 16, 1827, the Chapter conferred the degree of Royal Master, at which time a Royal Master Lodge was opened and Brother Perkins and four other Companions had the degree of Royal Master conferred on them.

Again, on February 16, 1842, a Royal Master's Lodge was opened. The degree was conferred upon Companions James Simpson, John Thomson, Harman Baugh, Michael Bouvier, and six other Companions, two of whom were from Chapter 52. The fee for conferring the degree at this time was fifty cents, which amount was paid into the treasury of the Chapter.

December 17, 1828, the term Geometric Master Mason was used for the first time on the minutes.

The approbation of the members of the Chapter was expressed in something more than words. February 18, 1829, a gold medal was ordered for Companion Samuel H. Perkins, in consideration of the zeal and fidelity displayed by him during his two years of office as First Chief. The price was limited, however, to \$10.

March 18, the Committee on Jewel was continued with discretionary powers. August 19, 1829, the jewel was presented by the High Priest *pro tem*. Companion Black; and was received in a very neat and eloquent manner by Companion Perkins. The Committee exceeded the price limited, and presented a bill for \$11.75.



December 12, 1829, a brother was passed to the chair under the warrant of Columbia Lodge, No. 91.

In October, 1831, we find an instance of the great desire to acquire a knowledge of the degrees. A copy of the Ahiman Rezon and Webb's Monitor were ordered to be purchased, and on November 21, 1832, a second copy of Webb's Monitor was ordered.

Every organization in and out of Masonry has a pride (some persons call it a hobby) in some particular object—something to be always striven for. Some Chapters pride themselves on their membership, others on their work, others on their banquets, while a very few have no pride at all.

Columbia Chapter has a pride in the manner in which her funds have been managed and invested. She never made a mistake in this particular but once, and that was in December, 1831, when a Committee was appointed, during the absence of the Treasurer, to invest \$100—being her first investment. At the next meeting of the Chapter the Treasurer sent in his resignation as an officer and as a member, which resignation was referred to a Committee to investigate. February 15, 1832, the Treasurer was granted leave to withdraw his resignation, when he reported that there was but a balance of \$34.59 in his hands. The Committee appointed to make investment was then discharged. The Treasurer had, no doubt, before his mind the example of his predecessors in office, whose accounts had been overdrawn, and he was determined to resign before he would pay more money out on account of the Chapter than he had received.

January 18, 1846, the first investment was made in the Masonic Loan for \$100. Your investments have since continually increased, until the present day they reach the sum total of \$11,500.

The work was sometimes done in the short way, but not very often. At a special meeting held November 1, 1833, the Chapter was opened and closed, and the three degrees were conferred, in one hour and twenty minutes. We have had, at the present day, several times a repetition of this wholesale manufacture of Royal Arch Masons, but, I am glad to say, not in this Chapter.

The Chapter does not seem to have been very favorable to having banquets or refreshments. On February 21, 1838, the first bill for refreshments was presented, and amounted to \$37.75. April 1, 1839, refreshments again—no bill stated. January, 1847—\$29.50. December 17, 1851, joint supper with Nos. 3 and 52; bill, \$57.75.

December, 1852, annual supper—\$79.20. Then there are no record of any more suppers until within a year or two.

Every opportunity was seized to improve the minds of the Companions. On September 16, 1840, a Lodge of Instruction was opened, and the ceremony of exaltation was rehearsed, and proved instructive and very satisfactory to the members present.

On June 16, 1841, a communication from Phoenix Lodge, No. 130, A. Y. M., was received and read, containing a preamble and resolution respecting the banishment from the festive board of all intoxicating drinks, and substituting therefor tea and coffee. The communication was ordered to be deposited in the archives.

The three Chapters at this time meeting in this city, namely, Nos. 3, 52 and 91, did not seem to get along very harmoniously. Between No. 3 and the others the feeling seemed to be not of the most friendly nature, and very few visitors presented themselves for admission in the other Chapters.

May, 1847, Chapter No. 3 endeavored to break the coldness that had existed for so many years between the Chapters in this city. They presented fifty Mark and Most Excellent Master songs to Chapter 91. Upon their receipt, a resolution was adopted that the Chapter accept with pleasure the *truly harmonious* present from Chapter No. 3, and the Secretary was directed to return thanks for the same.

The use of the black ball has not been very free in your Chapter.

On August 18, 1847, for the first time in your history, two candidates were rejected. The minutes say that one candidate received "two black balls, and the other, one black ball."

On November 17, 1847, charges were brought against Companion W. M. M——, for revealing the secrets of the ballot-box and maliciously voting against one of the candidates, and were referred to a Committee for investigation, and on December 20, 1847, Companion M—— was found guilty and expelled. Subsequently Companion M—— acknowledged the justness of his punishment, appealed for mercy, and the Chapter recommended the Grand Chapter to remove expulsion.

The Chapter took other methods of rewarding their Past Officers, besides presenting them with jewels.

December 19, 1849, Companion S. H. Perkins tendered his resignation; which was refused, and he was elected an honorary member *for life*.



On March 14, 1852, Past Grand High Priests were exonerated from payment of all dues.

A time was now rapidly approaching which bid fair to cause great trouble to your Chapter. The facts were these—In December, 1849, Companion J. Alexander Simpson was elected Scribe. Before the next meeting in January, 1850, when he was to be installed, the question was raised as to his eligibility to the office, he not being a Master or Past Master of a Blue Lodge by election. The matter was referred to a Committee, who, in May, reported “adverse to the idea of the applicant.” On this Companion Simpson gave notice of appeal to the Grand Chapter. The Grand Chapter for some reason never decided the question of appeal. In December, 1850, Companion Simpson having been elected Master of Blue Lodge was elected King, and thus was settled the first trouble.

The second, which was more serious, began in 1851. The Grand Chapter, at that time being influenced mostly by Chapter No. 3, adopted a work which did not prove entirely satisfactory to the other Chapters, and an agreement was made between the High Priests of Columbia Chapter, No. 91, and Harmony Chapter, No. 52, to resist this work, which was deemed an innovation.

Columbia Chapter, at a meeting held November 19, 1851, passed a resolution requesting its representatives in Grand Chapter to move for a reconsideration of the work, which was refused. The Grand Chapter then directed the Grand High Priest, Companion E. P. Lescure, to visit the several Chapters and with the Grand Officers exemplify the work, as adopted October 2, 1851.

April 21, 1852. The minutes say “the Chapter was opened by the Most Excellent Grand High Priest, the Grand King and Grand Scribe of the Grand Chapter of Pennsylvania.”

“After the Chapter 91 was opened, the Most Excellent Grand High Priest stated that he had visited the Chapter at this time to exemplify the work as lately adopted by the Grand Chapter, and for that purpose he would call Past Grand High Priest Companion Skerrett to take the chair. Companion J. Alexander Simpson, (the High Priest of 91,) asked him, ‘If it was his intention to do the work himself?’ To this the Grand High Priest replied, that it was not, and that he had called upon Past Grand High Priest Companion Skerrett for that purpose. The High Priest of the Chapter then stated, that he respectfully but firmly protested against Companion Past Grand High Priest Skerrett being called to the chair, prejudicing



his (the High Priest's) right to occupy that position. This the Grand High Priest resisted, and after a long and irrelevant conversation, the Grand High Priest declared the warrant of the Chapter sequestrated."

At the May Communication, 1852, of the Grand Chapter, the Grand High Priest reported, in a long and descriptive account, his visit to Columbia Chapter, No. 91, and that he had sequestrated their warrant. After some considerable discussion and the *admission into the Grand Chapter of the suspended members (representatives) of No. 91*, it was unanimously

"*Resolved*, That the warrant of Columbia Chapter, No. 91, be restored and she reinstated in all her rights and privileges."

Thus was sustained the only correct position that could be assumed by the High Priest of No. 91, that although it is the undoubted right of the Grand High Priest to preside in any Chapter he may visit, or in his absence, the Grand King, Scribe or District Deputy Grand High Priest; yet he cannot call any other person to the chair to preside, without the assent of the High Priest of the Chapter.

December, 1852, as a compliment to Companion T. S. Manning, who had served for twenty-seven years as Secretary, he was exempted from all dues, and it was resolved that he be paid during life, the compensation allotted to the Secretary by the article of the By-Laws. This aged and much respected Companion did not live long to enjoy the gratitude of his Companions. He died in March, 1855.

Companion J. Alexander Simpson at that time was elected Secretary, and has continued to serve until the present time, it being his twentieth year of service.

I would here say that I have personally examined the minute-books of Chapter 91 from 1822 to the present time, and pronounce them, without fear of contradiction, the best kept set of minutes I have ever seen. They are *clear, clean* and *concise*, discretion being freely used as what is proper and what not proper to be committed to writing. Each year being complete in itself—just what a minute-book should be.

Charity has been liberally bestowed, it having been the aim to feed others before they fed themselves at the expense of the Chapter.

The Grand Secretary has stated, in his report this evening, the amount bestowed by you in charity during the past six years—truly a bright record.

April 20, 1853, ten dollars was granted towards the purchase and erection of a statue of Brother George Washington in Fredericksburg, Va.

In November, 1853, the subject of banquets or suppers was settled for a time at least. Companion Robert Clark, at this meeting, offered a motion to dispense with the Annual Festival, which was considered and action thereupon postponed until the December meeting, when the motion to "dispense" was unanimously adopted.

June, 1855, a Committee was appointed to confer with the other Chapters and Mark Lodges meeting in the Hall to procure an organ for use in the new hall on Chestnut street. An organ was subsequently presented by Companion David Jayne.

October 17, 1855, the Chapter met for the first time in the present hall.

Honesty did not seem to actuate the feelings of all the members, for in January, 1857, an order was drawn in favor of the Treasurer for the amount of a counterfeit note taken at a preceding meeting.

In November, 1858, a brother tendered a lot in Mount Moriah Cemetery; and, at the December meeting, the present was declined. It was too expensive.

In May, 1864, Companion Past Grand High Priest Harman Baugh was so unfortunate as to meet with a severe accident, when a resolution sympathizing with him in this accident was unanimously adopted.

I would here bear testimony to the valuable services rendered to Royal Arch Masonry by Companion Past Grand High Priest Harman Baugh. My first recollection of Capitular Masonry places Companion Baugh as filling every station and place in Lodge and Chapter, and he can truly claim to have conferred more degrees in Royal Arch Masonry than any Companion in this, and, I doubt not, in any other jurisdiction.

My Companions, this is your early history. Of those who have taken active part in it, you have still remaining with you:

Comp. JOHN WILSON, SR.,	Exalted October 16, 1822.
" SAMUEL H. PERKINS,	" August 18, 1824.
" JOHN THOMSON,	" November 16, 1836.
" JAMES SIMPSON,	" May 16, 1839.
" HARMAN BAUGH,	" November 20, 1833.
" JOHN K. MURPHY,	
" JAMES HUTCHINSON,	

And a number of others.

Your Chapter has been truly honored by having had called from your midst to preside over the Grand Chapter as Grand High Priest Companions Samuel H. Perkins, James Simpson, Harman Baugh, George W. Wood, Samuel C. Perkins ; and at present you are represented by Companion John Wilson, Jr., as Grand King, and Companion John Thomson as Grand Secretary—worthy representatives of a worthy Chapter.

Respect, honor and reverence these old landmarks of the Royal Arch. They bring to you of the present, tidings of the past. Soon their voices will be heard among you no more. When they are gone you will miss them and look for them in vain—to them the winter of life has come, the blood is chilled, the brow frosted, and they are walking in the twilight of the brighter world. May your records be as clear as theirs.



## APPENDIX "F."

### REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE ON CORRESPONDENCE.

TO THE

M. . E. . Grand High Priest,

Officers and Companions, of the

Grand Holy Royal Arch Chapter of Pennsylvania :

On behalf of the Committee on Correspondence, we would respectfully report that we have examined the proceedings of forty-one Grand Chapters, including the General Grand Chapter of the United States, the Grand Chapter of Scotland, and the Grand Mark Lodge of England, and find very much to interest, instruct, and we might say, amuse.

Making our bow on this our first appearance before our Companions, we do so with all the more confidence, because we generally find a kind fraternal spirit pervading the whole corps reportorial. In the very few instances which are exceptional, we think it the duty of all to admonish the erring Companions kindly, but sufficiently forcible to make harshness unpopular; for while we personally believe in the widest scope of criticism, we do not think it either creditable to our intelligence as men, honorable to our Order as being governed by the broad principles of Charity, or desirable to the unification of our different Grand Jurisdictions, to have harsh, unbecoming and unkind sentiments expressed where apparently we cannot agree upon some point of law or custom.

We are gratified to find Royal Arch Masonry generally in a flourishing condition throughout the United States and Canada, and feel sure from the ability of those who are at the helm, that "no step backward" will be the verdict for at least many years to come.

We take up our task in the following order :

ALABAMA, . . .	1871	MISSOURI, . . .	1871
ARKANSAS, . . .	1871	MICHIGAN, . . .	1872
CALIFORNIA, . . .	1871-72	MINNESOTA, . . .	1871-72
CANADA, . . .	1871	NEBRASKA, . . .	1871
CONNECTICUT, . . .	1872	NEW HAMPSHIRE, . . .	1871
DELAWARE, . . .	1872	NEW JERSEY, . . .	1871
DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA, . . .	1871	NEW YORK, . . .	1872
FLORIDA, . . .	1871	NORTH CAROLINA, . . .	1872
GEORGIA, . . .	1871-72	NOVA SCOTIA, . . .	1870-71
ILLINOIS, . . .	1871	OHIO, . . .	1871
INDIANA, . . .	1871	OREGON, . . .	1871-72
IOWA, . . .	1871	RHODE ISLAND, . . .	1871
KANSAS, . . .	1872	SOUTH CAROLINA, . . .	1871
KENTUCKY, . . .	1871	TENNESSEE, . . .	1871
LOUISIANA, . . .	1872	TEXAS, . . .	1871
MAINE, . . .	1872	VERMONT, . . .	1872
MARYLAND, . . .	1871	WISCONSIN, . . .	1871
MASSACHUSETTS, . . .	1871	VIRGINIA, . . .	1871
MISSISSIPPI, . . .	1872	WEST VIRGINIA, . . .	1871

GENERAL GRAND CHAPTER UNITED STATES, 1871.

GRAND MARK LODGE OF ENGLAND AND WALES.

GRAND CHAPTER OF SCOTLAND, 1871-72.

### ALABAMA.

The Forty-fifth Annual Convocation was held at Masonic Hall, Montgomery, December 5, 1871, Most Excellent Grand High Priest Companion H. CLAY ARMSTRONG presiding. Fifty-one Chapters represented.

We quote from the address of the Grand High Priest as follows :

Very precious are the experiences of the past, as its recollections come to us freighted with kind and fraternal greetings, and harmonious endeavors in the prosecution of the one purpose of our assembling—the good of our Order. Remotely separated as are our dwelling-places; diverse and distinct as are our ordinary pursuits, and the hopes and aims and aspirations of our lives, there is a *unity* that belongs to us as Masons. The golden chain, whose links are “Brotherly Love, Relief and Truth,” extends from heart to heart; and we thus receive and transmit continually the current of genuine charity and sympathy.



My intercourse with Companions has impressed me that Royal Arch Masonry, in this jurisdiction, is in a healthy condition. It may be that subordinate Chapters have not greatly increased their numbers during the past Masonic year; I incline to the belief they have not. But I do not regard that fact as indicating a tendency to weakness, having no reason to believe indifference and lethargy the cause.

My official visitation has been to a limited extent only, such have been my private engagements; and whilst I have been received with uniform warmth of greeting by Chapters which it has been my privilege to meet, and whilst I have found Companions solicitous for instruction, I have sometimes failed to find proficiency commensurate with zeal.

The consummation most devoutly to be wished is, that this Grand Body, in its wisdom, should mature some plan by which the work and lectures, as adopted, can be generally disseminated, and thus a greater uniformity secured than at present prevails.

The address was referred to a Committee, who reported as follows:

1. That the Grand High Priest, during the term of his office, and his successors in like manner, shall be expected to visit as many subordinate Chapters as he may be able to do, not exceeding one-fourth of the Chapters, and instruct them in the work and lectures, and in any other respect that the circumstances of the case may require.

2. That the Grand High Priest shall also be, and he is hereby, empowered to authorize any member of the Committee on Work to perform a like service in any special case or cases, when the necessities of a Chapter or Chapters may require it.

3. That in the performance of the service hereinabove specified, the Grand High Priest or member of the Committee on Work so performing it, shall be authorized to draw on the funds of the Grand Chapter for a sufficient amount to defray his actual expenses while so engaged.

Our system is a very simple one, which we find to work very well, and hope to have it perfect in a short time. Our Grand High Priest districts the State, giving all the Chapters in certain counties (and generally arranging so that the lines of travel will be convenient) to an experienced Past High Priest (who has received the Order of High Priesthood) of a subordinate Chapter in said district, whose duty it is to visit those Chapters frequently, and teach them the Ritual, as well as to assist in deciding all questions of law or usage that may arise. And as they are Deputy Grand High Priests, they are for the time clothed with all the authority of the Grand



High Priest himself. They generally feel their responsibility, and act with care. It makes a division of labor, and with us is attended with much good.

The Report on Correspondence is by Companion P. J. Pillans, and reviews the proceedings of twenty-seven Grand Chapters, Pennsylvania for 1870 being among the number; in which he briefly but fraternally notices some of our proceedings for that year.

Referring to the District of Columbia, he says :

Companion Mason again makes the report from the Committee on Foreign Correspondence, reviewing no less than forty-two proceedings, Alabama for 1869 being among them. When speaking of the address of the Most Excellent Grand High Priest, he ungenerously says: "He again makes a plea for Alabama to return to her allegiance, and bow her neck to the yoke of the General Grand Chapter, from which she cut loose in 1861. The plea is a poor one, made in a whimpering manner, beneath the dignity of a Grand High Priest."

With the sentiment of the following, in noticing Michigan, we entirely agree :

Companion J. Eastman Johnson again makes the report from the Committee on Correspondence, conveying in as succinct and agreeable a manner as possible a very large amount of information exceedingly valuable to the Companions. It is exceedingly to be regretted that so few ever read these laboriously prepared papers, for there cannot be entertained a doubt that if the High Priests studied them carefully, the Most Excellent Grand High Priest would have fewer applications for decisions on the simplest questions of Masonic law. These proceedings are gratuitously placed within their reach, while digests and other compendia of legal learning are not obtained because of their cost. The perusal of the many eloquent passages quoted would also tend to stimulate the practice of the principles so earnestly advocated and enjoined.

Companion H. CLAY ARMSTRONG, *Grand High Priest*.

Companion DANIEL SAYRE, *Grand Secretary*.

## ARKANSAS.

The Twenty-second Annual Convocation of the Grand Chapter of Arkansas was held in the City of Little Rock, November, 1871, Most Excellent Grand High Priest Companion E. H. ENGLISH presiding. Twenty-four Chapters represented.

The Grand High Priest delivered a very interesting address, making report of his visit to the General Grand Chapter at Baltimore, &c. Speaking of his State and people, he uses the following language, which we quote as showing the material they have to work upon down there, as well as from admiration that he is strong in his faith for his own people.

I have met with more genuine hospitality in the rough cabins of the hunters of Arkansas than in places of boasted refinement; and a man's purse and his person are safer anywhere in Arkansas than in the streets and alleys of the great cities. We have, in fact, more virtue, and less vice and crime.

It is true, we have not many permanent monuments of an advanced civilization. We have not had time or means to build them. The pyramids were not built in a day, nor by a people of but fifty years growth. Nor were the monuments of Greece, Rome, Modern Europe, or New England. Down to the period of the late civil war, our people were battling with the hardships and trials incident to the settlement of a new country. What they were doing during the war, the world knows; and what has been done with them since the war, this is not the proper place for me to say.

We can point the world, however, to one monument, which though incomplete, every Mason, as well as all lovers of learning, may well be proud of—and that is our MASONIC COLLEGE.

Like the State, it is in its infancy; but it is growing in reputation and usefulness.

We must continue to foster and build it up, and in coming years its cap-stone will be laid, and all the people will clap their hands and cry grace! grace unto it!

In this great work, the Most Worshipful Grand Lodge is the Master Builder; but let us continue to carry up our corner.

We add our hope that it will be "incomplete" but for a short time longer, and that our Companions of Arkansas may be abundantly able to carry "up their corner."

The Grand Chapter appears to be in a healthy, flourishing and harmonious condition.

There was no report on Foreign Correspondence.

G. A. DANNELLY, of Searcy, *Grand High Priest*.

L. E. BARBER, of Little Rock, *Grand Secretary*.

## CALIFORNIA.

The Seventeenth Annual Convocation was held at the City of San Francisco, April, 1871, Most Excellent Grand High Priest



Companion GEORGE TUTTLE GRIMES presiding. Twenty-nine Chapters represented.

The Grand High Priest in his address very beautifully touches upon the duty we owe to God, upon the necessity of laying aside all personal differences, and upon the fraternal charity that should always characterize us as Royal Arch Masons.

He announces the appointments of a number of Representatives to various Grand Chapters, and gives his views upon the utility of the measure as follows:

The appointment of Representatives near other Grand Bodies is a practice which, in my judgment, is calculated to confer great benefit upon the Craft, by bringing us into closer relationship with each other, and by fostering those reciprocal acts of courtesy and kindness which tends so greatly to endear man to his brother man.

As there are others who hold different views, and as we propose to note them hereafter, we would simply say for ourselves, that we think they are like the old woman's soap pills—if they are no good, they cannot do much harm.

He notices the death of Past Grand High Priest B. B. French, of Washington, D. C., in a very touching manner; and to those who knew him it causes a feeling of gratitude at his well-intended compliment. A Mourning Page was published to his memory by order of the Grand Chapter.

In concluding his address, he uses the following language:

In conclusion, let me express the hope that we may, one and all, be guided in our intercourse with each other by those great Masonic principles upon which our Order is founded, and that the application of these principles may not be confined to externals only, but may they be the guide of our action in all things. May we lay aside "all malice and guile and hypocrisies, and envies and all evil speakings." Let them be as beacons and guides in our Masonic pathway, leading us in uprightness, in truth and integrity, and in harmony one with another. Then shall we become elevated, purified and exalted, and fitted for that Grand Convocation which shall meet in the "Temple not made with hands, eternal in the heavens."

The business of the Grand Convocation was conducted expeditiously, and the reports of the various Committees show a commendable degree of harmony in that jurisdiction.

The Report of the Committee on Foreign Correspondence is from the pen of Lawrence C. Owen, Grand Secretary, and bears upon it



the impress of careful research, and, we think, fair and intelligent judgment.

Reviewing Alabama, he quotes the following resolution, and comments thereupon so exactly according to our teaching, that we select both:

*Resolved*, That the edict of this Grand Chapter in the Proceedings of 1864, p. 14, and Chapter Code, p. 51, "That one suspended by a Master Mason's Lodge for non-payment of dues shall also stand suspended as a Royal Arch Mason," be and the same is hereby repealed; and that suspension by a Master Mason's Lodge to be binding upon the action of the Chapters in this jurisdiction, shall be suspension after trial and conviction.

The opinion of the Committee was concurred in, and the resolution accompanying it was adopted.

We are surprised at this conclusion. Not one of the members of the Grand Chapter, as Master Masons, could hold Masonic intercourse with a Master Mason suspended for any cause. If one of them presided over a Lodge of Masons, and a member suspended for non-payment of dues applied for admission, he would undoubtedly refuse the application, and we cannot understand how a Royal Arch Mason can sit in a Chapter with a Companion whom he knew he could not sit with in a Lodge.

Pennsylvania for 1868-9 is fraternally noticed. Speaking of Companion Charles E. Meyer's Report on Correspondence, he says:

One of the most interesting reports on correspondence that we have ever read was prepared by Companion Charles E. Meyer. It reviews the proceedings of thirty-four Grand Chapters, five of them for three years and twenty-five for two years, setting forth everything of interest, and commenting thereon with a judgment rarely equalled.

Companion JAMES LAWRENCE ENGLISH, *Grand High Priest*.

Companion CHARLES LOUIS WIGAN, *Grand Secretary*.

## 1872.

The Eighteenth Annual Convocation was held in San Francisco, April, 1872, Most Excellent Grand High Priest Companion JAMES L. ENGLISH presiding. Thirty-five Chapters represented.

The Most Excellent Grand High Priest in his address refers to the defalcation of their former Grand Secretary, placing the amount after full investigation at the sum of \$7,172.31, and from the pecuniary situation and shattered health of that person, he does not expect to recover any of the above sum. He states that charges were pre-

ferred against him in his Blue Lodge, and he is now an expelled Mason. His address is very full and interesting, but principally upon local matters of no special interest outside that jurisdiction.

The Report on Foreign Correspondence is by Companion Charles Louis Wigan, Grand Secretary, and embraces a review of thirty-two Grand Chapters, Pennsylvania for 1870 being among the number.

In his review of the General Grand Chapter, he takes very decided ground against a decision of the General Grand High Priest, in the case of a Chapter working under dispensation, as follows :

The following decision was announced : M. F. Truett, a "Past Master Mason," was expelled from all his rights and privileges as such, by *Helena* Chapter, U. D. Truett appealed to the General Grand Chapter, which body referred the matter to the General Grand High Priest, with power to act. The decision of that officer is couched in the following language :

From the documents placed in my hands, I became satisfied that there had been great irregularities committed in the proceedings during the trial of the accused, which would have warranted the setting aside of the verdict ; but my decision was based upon the principle that a Chapter U. D., being but a "temporary and inchoate body," which exists only during the will and pleasure of the Grand Officer who brought it into being, and which he may dissolve at any time. It possesses no power to try or discipline its members. It was therefore ordered that the proceedings of *Helena* Royal Arch Chapter, U. D., in expelling M. F. Truett from his rights and privileges as a "Past Master Mason," be set aside as irregular, and be declared null and void ; and that said brother be restored to all his rights and privileges of a Past Master Mason, and to the position which he held in said Chapter at the time said charges were preferred against him.

We are perfectly well aware of the futility of discharging the feeble catapult of our dissent against the mighty bulwark of a General Grand High Priest's decision, especially when that decision is final and admits of no appeal ; but to dissent is the privilege of the humblest, and we wish most respectfully but emphatically to place upon that decision the stamp of our disapproval. We can not agree with the General Grand High Priest that a Chapter U. D. is a "temporary and inchoate body." It has, for the time being, a complete organization, and possesses all the powers and prerogatives of a chartered and duly constituted Chapter, so far as the making of Royal Arch Masons is concerned ; and we hold that a body having the power to make Masons, should have power to discipline or unmake them when found to be unworthy. It is true that a Chapter U. D. "exists only during the will and pleasure of the Grand Officer who brought it into being ;" but the same rule will apply to a char-



tered Chapter, which can exist only during the will and pleasure of the Grand Body whose creature it is, and whose existence may even be temporarily stifled by the Grand High Priest himself during the intervals of the Convocations of the Grand Chapter. Had the General Grand High Priest taken the trouble to consult us in the matter, we should have advised him to reverse the action of that Chapter upon the ground of the irregularities in the proceedings at the trial, rather than in accordance with a principle so unsound as that upon which he acknowledges his decision to have been based.

This we think is sound.

Although in our jurisdiction we do not have any Chapters Under Dispensation, we hold to the doctrine that when a sufficient number of Royal Arch Masons feel that they can properly furnish a Chapter, and that there is a full and fair chance for the Chapter to succeed in the town or village in which it is proposed to start it, they should be willing to resign from the Chapter or Chapters to which they belong and apply for a warrant for a new Chapter. With us in Pennsylvania such an application, properly recommended, is made at either the Annual or one of the Quarterly Communications. The petition is generally referred to a committee, usually the Grand Officers, with power to grant the warrant if they are fully satisfied that the interests of Royal Arch Masonry will be safe in the hands of those applying, so that when the warrant is granted and the Chapter constituted, they are the peers of any Chapter in the jurisdiction.

Reviewing Georgia, he uses the following language in reference to mixing Masonry and Religion, in which we fully agree:

We always regret to see any attempt made to substitute Masonry for Religion. While each labors in its appropriate sphere to elevate and purify mankind, they are separate and distinct in their natures. "Masonry is a beautiful system of morality;" its teachings are pure and noble, and naturally lead us to that point where Religion takes us by the hand and guides us into the presence of Him through whose pardoning grace alone we may obtain salvation. By a strict adherence to the principles and teachings of Masonry, a man may lead a pure and blameless life; but "in that solemn hour, when the soul hovers midway between the two worlds, when the vail of earthly vision grows transparent with the dawning light of eternity," the "devotee of Masonry" will find that something more is needed to sustain the drooping spirit and cheer it with the hope of a blessed immortality.



Speaking of Mississippi, he says with regard to the standing of a Royal Arch Mason in a Blue Lodge:

We do not know what the local regulations of Mississippi may be with reference to Royal Arch Masons holding their membership in the Lodge, but we believe every member of a Chapter should also be a member of some Lodge. It is in the Lodge where most of the real work of Masonry is done, and there the great majority of the active charities of the Order are dispensed, and he who shirks his duties in the Lodge, who declines to contribute to its charities, and wraps himself up in the dignity of the *so-called* higher degrees, is unworthy the name of Mason, and deserves to be thrown among the rubbish. In California, we require every member of a Chapter to be a member of some Lodge, or at least to contribute to some Lodge an amount equivalent to the monthly dues.

In Pennsylvania the law is as follows:

“No Royal Arch, Most Excellent or Mark Master Mason shall continue to be a member of any Chapter or Most Excellent or Mark Master Mason’s Lodge for a longer time than six months after he shall have ceased to be a member of a Blue Lodge.” Constitution Grand Chapter Pennsylvania, p. 44.

From Pennsylvania for 1870 he makes very liberal extracts, and gives a fraternal review, also thinks we have difficulty in inventing names for new Chapters, as he finds two that bear the name of “Oriental.”

We do not think our inventive faculties are a whit behind those of any other State; but suppose the name was selected with precisely the same feeling of respect and affection that prompts a man to name his first-born after his parent.

Again, speaking of the names of some of our Chapters, he quotes from our Grand High Priest’s address, and comments as follows:

“There are at present in this jurisdiction three Mark Lodges and seventy-four Chapters, all of which, with the exception of two Chapters, are in a flourishing condition, more particularly the Chapters constituted during this year, whose rapid growth is unparalleled in our Masonic history.” Two other Chapters, which have been suspended, are desirous of resuming labor—No. 172, at Tunkhannock, and No. 184, at Kittanning. We do not wonder that these Chapters “paled their ineffectual fires,” and we marvel that they ever exhibited any symptoms of revivification. The names of their respective localities are sufficient to kill almost anything. The Shirt-tail Canon and Jackass Gulch, of California, are euphonious in comparison.

Rather hard on our friends at Tunkhannock and Kittanning, we should say.

Speaking of our venerable and able Companion Past Grand High Priest George Griscom, he says:

We sincerely regret that Companion Griscom should have found it necessary to ask to be relieved; the perusal of his Report had afforded us so much pleasure that we are eager for more from the same source, and the Grand High Priest evidently believed with us, that it is best to hold fast to a good thing, as, notwithstanding his prayer for relief, Companion Griscom was again appointed Chairman of the Committee on Correspondence.

Companion JACOB HART NEFF, *M. E. Grand High Priest.*

Companion CHARLES LOUIS WIGAN, *Grand Secretary.*

#### CANADA.

The Fourteenth Annual Convocation of the Grand Chapter of Royal Arch Masons of Canada was held in the City of Hamilton, August 9, 1871, Most Excellent Companion T. DOUGLASS HARRINGTON, Grand Zerubbabel, presiding. Thirty-six Chapters represented.

The Most Excellent Grand Zerubbabel delivered an address, fraternally advising harmony and good feeling; and referring to the death of Companion S. D. Fowler, in terms of affection. He also communicates the intelligence that the affairs of the jurisdiction are moving along so smoothly and harmoniously that he finds it difficult to prepare an address, but soon after adverts to the fact that trouble has been and is yet experienced with Craft Masonry in the Province of Quebec, which unfavorably influences Capitular Masonry in the jurisdiction, and continues as follows:

That the Grand Lodge of Quebec is an accomplished fact, it would be absurd to ignore. It has been unconditionally recognized by some twenty-three Grand Lodges already, and that other Grand Bodies will pursue a like course, I entertain no doubt. This is not a question for Grand Chapters to discuss; but it is my duty to inform you that I received a very courteous and fraternal communication in my capacity of your Grand First Principal, from the Most Worshipful Grand Master of Quebec, who is likewise a member of high standing of this Grand Chapter, notifying officially the existence of the Grand Lodge of Quebec, and seeking for amicable and free intercourse, to which I replied in a similar spirit; and these letters are, of course, ready to be laid before you. I am quite without information from the Grand Lodge of Canada. I had given to me, from more than one quarter, clear testimony that bitter feelings were beginning to



be engendered among our Royal Arch Masons, at Montreal especially, and that, greatly to their discredit, they were threatening to use, if not actually doing so, the ballot-box as an instrument of strife! This I was resolved to render nugatory if possible, so far as Capitular Masonry was concerned, and it was partly in consequence of this that I granted dispensations for the two new Chapters in that city, the respective petitions coming to me from Companions on the one part favorable, and the other hostile to the Grand Lodge of Quebec. I believe I did right, and that I am justified by the result.

Of course, an address of this kind is not the document for the insertion of details—going before the outside world as it will do like its predecessors—and I would probably have been silent on the subject, only that as the principle of having a Grand Lodge for each Province of the Dominion has, we all know, been in a measure acknowledged and assented to, it really becomes simply a question of time as to the formation of separate Grand Chapters, and when the limit of our jurisdiction will be still more curtailed. It is the wisest course to look this contingency full in the face, and when that time does arrive, carry out the change in a truly Masonic and fraternal way—giving and receiving, bearing and forbearing, making mutual concessions if needful, and avoiding heartburnings and strife, scorning wordy warfare, but wishing instead God speed and prosperity to all concerned.

Our Companions of Canada have very wisely and judiciously, we think, divided their Grand Chapter jurisdiction into twelve districts, and appointed Superintendents of each, whose duty it is apparently to visit each Chapter, inspect the work, give instruction, and make report to the Most Excellent Grand Chapter at each Annual Convocation. The system has many of the features of our District Deputy Grand High Priests, with this advantage on the part of Canada, that the Grand Superintendents must make a detailed report of their action direct to the Grand Chapter.

We find in the Report of the Superintendent of the Central District, the following:

Your Superintendent cannot but strongly urge upon Grand Chapter that no Master Mason should be admitted to Chapter honors unless he is conversant with the principles, and capable of *opening* and *closing*, with readiness and accuracy, the three Degrees of Symbolic Masonry. The admission of any but *actual* Masters or Past Masters to our Body, is confessedly an *indulgence*. To be worthy of this indulgence, a candidate should, at the very least, possess the modicum of knowledge which I have stated. As wherever I have visited I have found the same difficulty, I would urge the consideration of it upon Grand Chapter.



The tendency of the age is rather to manufacture Royal Arch Masons, for the sake of numbers, than to make them understand that it is a privilege only to be obtained after a proper degree of respect is shown for what they have got, and the presumption of an intelligent appreciation of what they are seeking.

The Report on Foreign Correspondence was presented by Companion Henry Robertson (chairman), and embraces the proceedings of thirty-one Grand Chapters, Pennsylvania (reprint) being among the number. He makes a very able report, with excellent selections from the proceedings under review, and short but forcible comments upon the various matters at hand.

Noticing the proceedings of Rhode Island, he says:

We have long been of opinion that the present system of dues is unsound and unfair. Unfair especially to those who, having "borne the burden and heat of the day," and having for many years supported the Craft by word and by deed, find themselves in their old age deprived of those Masonic privileges they so highly prize, by reason of their inability to pay the yearly tax. They must either withdraw and become unaffiliated, or be suspended—in either case being visited with dire penalties through no fault of their own, and placed on a par, as far as practical results are concerned, with those whose unworthy actions or Masonic crimes have banished them from the Fraternity.

The system is also unsound, as being entirely of modern creation, and not known at all in days of old. By the ancient regulations, "every new brother is decently to clothe the Lodge" at his admission, and no further tax was required of him. He then became a Mason "in good standing," and his subsequent poverty did not deprive him of Masonic intercourse, or of any of his Masonic privileges. The necessity of keeping up funds for charitable and other purposes, is no doubt an objection to the removal of the present system; but that can easily be obviated by the increase of the fees for initiation and degrees, which in many cases are now far too low. We would be very glad to see the Rhode Island practice adopted in this jurisdiction, and the present system of annual dues, with all its attendant evils, altogether done away with.

Of our reprint, he says:

The large volume before us is an abstract of the proceedings from 1767 to 1864, and forms an intensely interesting and valuable history of Capitular Masonry in Pennsylvania from a remote date. It is a useful and acceptable addition to our Masonic library, and we beg to tender our thanks for the same.

And extracts freely from it, principally to show that in our early history we used the same titles as are now used by them to designate their three principal officers.

Companion T. DOUGLASS HARRINGTON, *Grand Zerubbabel*.

Companion THOMAS B. HARRIS, *Grand Secretary*.

## CONNECTICUT.

The Semi-Annual Convocation was held in the city of New Britain, November 1, 1871, twenty-five Chapters represented; and the Annual Convocation in the City of Hartford, May 7, 1872, Most Excellent Companion CHARLES W. STEARNS presiding, thirty-three Chapters represented.

The Grand High Priest's address is largely taken up with a report of the doings of the General Grand Chapter, and such local matters as would be of interest only to members of that jurisdiction.

There seems to be a general and wholesome move on the part of all Grand Chapters to get their history completed up to date. We think the idea a good one. And as presented by Grand High Priest Stearns as worthy of their immediate attention, he says:

My predecessors have often spoken to you of the importance of compiling and publishing the earlier records of this Grand Chapter. I think a Committee has been appointed for this purpose, and for collecting such materials as might be available for a historical sketch of Royal Arch Masonry in this State. How far this Committee have progressed in this work, I know not. This much is certain—the work cannot be accomplished with the present state of the treasury. I would, therefore, recommend that the fees from the subordinate Chapters be temporarily increased until a sufficient amount shall have been raised to accomplish this important work.

I need not enlarge upon the importance of this matter; I only urge you to provide the means that the work may be carried forward without further delay, for, as time advances, the difficulties will increase. Our older Companions are passing away, and much valuable information, which may be obtained from them, will be forever lost. Let us procrastinate no longer.

The following resolution was adopted, which, we think, is proper, as giving the members of the Grand Chapter an incentive to read what we fear but comparatively few attempt to wade through, but which has taken days of careful reading, study and care on the part of the Committee of Correspondence. Beside from our judgment



of the present "Corps Reportorial," they will compare favorably in intellect, sound acumen, and devotion to Capitular Masonry, with any class of men in the country, let them be officers, past officers or high privates; and we imagine that the occurrence is rare indeed that any amendment to their report is made.

*Resolved*, That the chairman of the Committee on Foreign Correspondence be requested henceforth to furnish the Grand Secretary with his report in sufficient time to admit of the same being printed before the Annual Convocation, and that the Grand Secretary be instructed to have the same printed and distributed among the members upon the opening of the Grand Chapter.

Rule 4 of their permanent Regulations reads as follows, and if faithfully carried out, is, in our judgment, good:

In all elections in our several Chapters (Grand and subordinate) it is the duty of Companions to elect to office those of their number who are best qualified to fill the stations to which they are elected, without reference to the position which they occupy in the Chapter; thereby making their several bodies more effective as working Royal Arch Masons, and as deliberate bodies.

The Report on Foreign Correspondence was presented by Companion Luke A. Lockwood, in which he reviews twenty-seven Grand Chapters, and the General Grand Chapter of the United States. Pennsylvania, however, is not among the number. So general has become the practice of exchanging proceedings, that we very much regret the omission, and feel sure they must have miscarried in some manner, for which "nobody is to blame."

Companion Lockwood prepared an excellent report, making liberal selections and judicious comments, always fair and yet always decided.

Reviewing Ohio, he quotes the following resolution:

*Resolved*, That in the opinion of this Grand Chapter, a Master Mason, who has become maimed in person, is not thereby prevented from receiving the degrees conferred in a Royal Arch Chapter.

Upon which he comments as follows:

We are glad to know this, for if we ever visit Ohio again, and a Royal Arch Mason without arms shall offer his foot in welcome, we can reciprocate the warm pressure, and safely infer that he has been duly exalted by a Chapter, which is its own and sole judge of the necessary physical qualification of its candidates. Again, how



deeply we all must sympathize with *legless, weary sojourners*. Do they *wade* streams or pass bridges in Ohio? The idea of the lame, the halt and the blind rebuilding the House of the Lord! It might be consistent, for they ought to be willing to work without the hope of fee or reward. Please reconsider. The subject grows, but lost legs, hands, arms and feet will not.

We regret to see the announcement of Companion Lockwood's retirement from the "Corps Reportorial."

In concluding this, our second report, we desire to return our thanks to the Grand Chapter of Connecticut for the honor bestowed; to the several reporters who have so kindly and encouragingly welcomed us to their worthy corps, and to express our sincere regret that our time is so engrossed by other duties, that we must deny ourselves the honor and pleasure of longer continuing our labors as a reporter.

Companion WILLIAM M. LEE, *Grand High Priest*.

Companion JOSEPH R. WHEELER, (re-elected,) *Grand Secretary*.

#### DELAWARE.

The Fourth Annual Convocation of the Grand Chapter of Delaware was held at Dover, January 17, 1872, Most Excellent Grand High Priest Companion A. V. LESLEY presiding. Four Chapters represented.

The address of the Most Excellent Grand High Priest is a short but sensible and judicious document, showing some of the troubles with which they have had to contend with in Delaware.

In the report of the Deputy Grand High Priest, he states that in May, 1871, he granted a dispensation to open and hold a regular Chapter of Royal Arch Masons in Middletown, in that State, under the usual restrictions, and he recommends a warrant be granted them at that Convocation. We think, to say the least, Delaware must be very accommodating to their Grand Officers, to allow the Deputy Grand High Priest such large power, but fear that it would lead to trouble in the exercise of it.

The Report of the Committee on Foreign Correspondence was prepared by Companion D. C. Godwin, and reviews the proceedings of twenty-five Chapters and the General Grand Chapter of the United States, Pennsylvania not being among the number. The selections made by Companion Godwin, and the comments made upon them, are, we think, fair and judicious. Unfortunately,

however, there has been no special care taken to separate the selected from the original. We find nothing in their proceedings of special note to chronicle, and earnestly congratulate them upon their bright prospects and the harmony of their action.

Most Excellent Companion J. R. McFEE, *Grand High Priest*.

Most Excellent Companion J. P. ALLMOND, *Grand Secretary*.

#### DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA.

A Special Convocation of the Grand Chapter of the District of Columbia was held at Washington, January 30, 1871, Most Excellent Grand High Priest Companion J. LOCKIE presiding, and was held for the purpose of receiving a report from the Committee appointed at a previous Convocation to revise the work of the several degrees, &c.

The Semi-Annual Convocation was held on May 9, 1871, at which the following action was taken, which we insert as a matter of interest to all of our Companions who may wish to subscribe for the work:

Companion Mason, on behalf of the Committee appointed to compile the writings of our late Most Excellent Grand High Priest Companion B. B. French, reported that the work had been completed and was now ready for publication, and asked for instructions as to the proper course to pursue in publishing the same; when, on motion of Companion Grand Secretary, the following resolution was adopted:

*Resolved*, That the Committee be requested to ascertain the cost of printing the work, and then to direct a circular to the Grand and subordinate Chapters in the United States, informing them that it is the intention of this Grand Chapter to publish the Masonic and other writings of Companion B. B. French, and to request them to collect subscriptions for the same at such price as the Committee may determine, the subscription to be paid when the work is issued.

The Annual Convocation was held on November 14, 1871.

The Most Excellent Grand High Priest delivered an able address, reporting his action as Representative of the Grand Chapter of the District of Columbia to the General Grand Chapter.

Among other things reported by him was the following, which strikes us as being somewhat sarcastic:

The next feature of interest was, a resolution requesting of each Grand Chapter three cents from each Royal Arch Mason in its jurisdiction, to be sent as a donation to the General Grand Chapter to enable it to publish its proceedings.



I would therefore recommend a favorable consideration of this petition for charity, as I think it is a rare opportunity of returning good for evil.

In regard to membership in the subordinate Chapters, he says :

I know of but two ways of acquiring full membership in a Masonic body, viz.: the first, by petition, ballot and initiation; the second, by petition and affiliation. If any other mode of acquiring full membership in a Masonic body (according to the usages of Masonry) is known, I confess my ignorance of its existence, and would gladly be enlightened upon that point.

The following we extract as showing an earnest disposition to do what he thought was right :

Companions, I have endeavored to discharge the duties of Grand High Priest to the best of my ability, with justice to all and partiality to none; and as I am now about to return to you the emblems of distinction and authority with which you invested me one year ago, and to take my position upon the floor of this Grand Chapter as a high private, permit me here to return my thanks for the great honor you have conferred upon me, and for the uniform respect and kindness shown me by every officer, both Grand and subordinate, in this entire jurisdiction, and I can with propriety also include every individual Companion so far as my observation has extended; and the earnest prayer of my heart is, "That the Great I AM may shower Heaven's choicest blessings upon all Royal Arch Masons in general, (but those of this jurisdiction in particular,) until there shall not be room to receive them." Finally, my Companions, let each one of us endeavor to discharge our duties in the Quarries, in the Orient, or at the dedication of the Temple; and in the noble and glorious work as weary sojourners, may we execute those sublime plans which have been devised in wisdom, established in strength, and perfected in beauty; for by so doing we shall secure the approbation and blessing of the God of our fathers here; and when the Recording Angel shall open the great book, may we be the happy recipients of that pass which will secure to us an abundant entrance within the pearly gates of the Holy of Holies above, there to hear the thrilling announcement reverberating around the jasper walls, crossing the golden streets, bounding through the rustling leaves of the Tree of Life, and dying away before the Great White Throne, fair in the south, clear in the west, and bright in the east. So mote it be.

The Committee on Foreign Correspondence was again presented by Companion J. Edwin Mason, and reviews the proceedings of thirty-seven Grand Chapters with great ability in many respects, but



in a manner peculiar to himself, which we hope we may not be tempted to imitate. Companion Mason is unquestionably one of the thinkers of the age, and expresses his views clearly, forcibly and accurately, whenever commenting upon any point of Masonic law or usage; but there seems to be a crank in his head that every once in a while gives him a sudden twinge, when, lo! his manner changes into coarseness, unmixed with any of the intellect or refinement of the gentleman. His course, we think, is much to be regretted and condemned, for while the corps of reporters generally are severe when a good opportunity offers, yet they are always fair and just, and they never lose sight of the fact that they are speaking of Companions and brethren, and that their audience is composed of material whose duty it is to regret the actions of an erring brother. We propose to clip from some of the most intelligent reports their opinion of Companion Mason's course, not in anger, but because we hope it may cause him to reflect over the past, and in that respect reform the future, that we may have all the good that he is capable of, without those objectionable features which are so unworthy of him.

In his revision of England, he gives the following description of the visit to the United States, of the Right Honorable Marquis of Ripon:

The pleasure of receiving, in the National Capital, the first officer of Capitular Masonry in England, was so great that a spontaneous outburst of enthusiasm carried away the hearts of our Companions, and a desire was manifested to entertain him with that hospitality for which the Masons of Washington are proverbial. We were not only satisfied that Her Majesty had selected the right man to settle the unfortunate disputes between this country and England, but that the Masons of America and England would help along the object of the mission. The mother of Royal Arch Masonry had sent the Chief Architect of her Temple to the house of her daughter, where Masonic greetings of the most fraternal character were exchanged.

In order to properly greet the Grand Principal Zerubbabel of England, it was proposed to get up a grand banquet in his honor here in the National Capital, and invite the most distinguished Masons from all parts of the United States to meet the Royal guest.

A magnificent banquet was prepared in the Masonic Temple, which excelled anything of the kind ever seen in Washington, and there, under the flags of the United States and Great Britain woven together, with cheers fraternal, and salutations of hundreds of the most distinguished Masons of America, the first officer of Capitular Masonry in England was presented to the prominent Masons of the United States.

The flags and streamers, the wreaths and flowers, the paintings, statuary, and gorgeous decorations of the Temple, as well as the delicacies from all parts of the earth that loaded down the tables, all furnished a pleasing picture for the eye to rest upon ; but the sincere and hearty salutations that met our distinguished guest, that came so heartily from American hearts, were grander, and more truly were the triumph of the hour. When the bands played "God save the Queen" and "Rule Britannia," as well as "Yankee Doodle" and "The Star Spangled Banner," we felt that the music united all present in one common brotherhood. There seemed swelling up in our hearts the old sentiment :

"A union of lakes, a union of lands,  
A union that none can sever ;  
A union of hearts, a union of hands,  
And our glorious Union forever."

Our English guests forgot their country for a moment, and we forgot ours, and we were joined together in the bonds of Masonry, which we trust may never be broken. "Alabama claims" were forgotten, and the claims of humanity and Masonry ruled the hour, and sat upon the throne as the monarchs we obeyed. In generous wine we pledged the health of the Queen, and in the same cup our English guests honored our republican President, here in republican America. Our eminent Masonic Companions, Right Honorable Marquis of Ripon, Lord Tenderden, and Sir John A. McDonald, undoubtedly felt that warm Masonic hearts surrounded them, and in this they were not mistaken.

When dignified Senators and Representatives, together with the leading officials of the United States Government, all present as Masons, tendered their sympathies and congratulations to our guests, they did it with sincere hearts.

And in the "wee sma' hours," when the time for parting came, we felt that a union had been formed never to be broken between hearts in England and America. And when we bade our friends adieu, there was sincerity in the words of the ballad sung—

"When shall we meet again,  
Meet ne'er to sever;  
When will peace wreath her chain  
Round us forever."

Correspondence with all parts of the United States, shows the interest the Craft in this country felt in the entertainment of the first officer of English Masonry, as well as his colleagues on the Joint High Commission.

Their visit here has not only united England and America in peace, and buried—we trust forever—the perplexing questions that distracted the two nations, but bound together with a Mason's grip, the Companions in the old world and the new.



May the silver cord that binds us together in these halcyon days of peace, strengthen the mystic tie in Masonry, and help to throw off the chains of bigotry, vice and prejudice, that have injured Masonry in other countries on the globe.

We quote the following entire, as being of great interest to the Companions of our jurisdiction, and feel that the thanks of the Fraternity are due to Companions Mason and Hughan for the same :

TRURO, ENGLAND, *September 28, 1871.*

*To the Worthy Chairman of Foreign Correspondence, D. C.*

DEAR BROTHER DR. MASON: I write at once on receipt of your esteemed communication of the 7th instant, to say that by some unexplained cause your "long letter" has never reached me. I had, first of all, a most fraternal communication from you, dated April 8, 1870, which was duly answered, and the reply inserted at length in the excellent report of the "Proceedings of the Grand Chapter of the District of Columbia," 1870.

I subsequently received a letter from your Grand Secretary, Brother N. D. Larner, thanking me for my sketch of the Craft in Europe, and informing me of the most flattering vote of your Grand Chapter. The Grand Secretary, at same time, very kindly forwarded ten copies of the report for my distribution in this country, which I have done accordingly, and the recipients have been equally pleased as myself, with the good spirit and Masonic zeal which is reflected throughout its pages; and more particularly are we gratified with the "Report of the Committee on Foreign Correspondence," as we have presented to us in a nut-shell an epitomized history of Royal Arch Masonry in the United States.

The letter from Companion Larner is dated February 3, 1871, and I can assure you that these two are all the communications I have received. Indeed, I sent to Companion Fellows, of Manchester, N. H., (a fast Masonic friend of mine, who wrote me directly the report by your Grand Chapter was published,) to see or write you, as I had not heard from you of receipt of my letter of April 28, 1870. I regret the non-receipt of your letter exceedingly, as for certain it was *well worth a perusal*, and thus the loss is mine irretrievably.

So much by way of explanation. I now will write you a few remarks on the Report itself of 1870, so as to set right any misconceptions with respect to the Craft in Europe, and will do so to you annually, on receipt of each report, if you so desire.

I think we, as Royal Arch Companions and as Masons, are bound to communicate what information we can to the "general store;" and therefore, if the Grand Chapter, at their assembly, desire any



subject with respect to the Craft in my country to be elucidated, it is only for that illustrious body to propound a series of questions to me to secure their being answered.

1. Grand Chapter of Alabama :

“No substitutes are allowed in Alabama in conferring the Royal Arch Degree. Can you tell me the origin of the custom thus to require *three* candidates at each exaltation?” I have the earliest Constitution of the Royal Arch for England (from whence American Royal Arch Masonry was derived), but they contain no such requirement as to non-substitution ; and the custom in this country, Scotland and Ireland, has always been to admit one or more candidates at a Convocation, irrespective of there being *three* or otherwise.

I am confident the stringent regulation which prevails in Alabama, and in other Grand Chapters in the United States, will be gradually repealed, as it is calculated to do harm instead of good. Example : three candidates present themselves for exaltation. One is most unsuitable, and yet as the friends of the other two candidates desire an exaltation to take place, they vote for the *third*, as otherwise their friends would have to wait for another meeting. In this way improper candidates might be accepted ; and, for my part, I cannot see any grounds for such a law.

2. Grand Chapter of Arkansas :

“Dropping of the Past Master’s Degree.” This is a question which is bound to crop up and demand consideration. In England the degree is given to a duly elected Master to the Chair of a Craft Lodge, and then only in the presence of three or more installed Masters. It is only under the authority of the Grand Lodge, and Past Masters of the Royal Arch making are not admitted to any of their assemblies.

In Scotland the degree is given *as with you*, under the Grand Chapter, and as the *fifth* in Capitular Freemasonry.

There is, however, a probability of the Grand Chapter of Scotland waiving their right to work this degree, provided the Grand Lodge would take it under their superintendence. I mention this, because, unless the Grand Lodge of Arkansas (and so for all jurisdictions) is ready to assume the authority to confer the Past Master’s Degree, as with the Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania, (which is the nearest to the English Rite of any in the United States,) it would be absurd to “drop” the degree, as it would then be without a head. It is quite certain that candidates for the Royal Arch during the last century, were required to take the Past Master as a necessary prerequisite in this country, and the degree was conferred in a Craft Lodge, in order to enable candidates for the Royal Arch to be in possession of all the preliminaries to exaltation.

3. Grand Chapter of Canada :

“The Mark Grand Lodge of England” has been recognized by Canadian authorities, and wisely so, because it is the only governing

body for Mark Masonry in England. The Grand Lodge and Grand Chapter have both refused to take it under their wings, and hence the Lodges of the Mark Degree have formed their own Grand Lodge, and have about one hundred warrants in active operation. I have the honor of being a Past Grand Overseer of this body, and hope to see the day when the Grand Chapter of Scotland (to which I owe allegiance) will recognize it. The Grand Chapter of Ireland acknowledges its certificates, and the Grand Conclave of Knights Templar, and the Supreme Grand Council, 33°, for England, have formed a treaty with it, and recognized it as the only legitimate governing body for Mark Masons in England. A conference was held in London, in April last, to consider the question as to its recognition by the Grand Chapters of Scotland and Ireland, and at which these bodies were represented, as also the Grand Lodge of Scotland, (which permits the Mark Degree to be given in a Craft Lodge,) and much *good* is likely to result from their deliberations.

3<sup>d</sup>. The "Council Degrees," I quite agree with you, (at page 30 of your excellent and most racy report,) are not suitable for incorporation with the Grand Chapters of the United States, and I hope yet that Virginia will expel them from its rule and permit its members to manage their own affairs. They are simply copies of degrees under the Ancient and Accepted Rite, and, like that body, are nothing like so ancient as Royal Arch Masonry.

4. Grand Chapter of Maryland:

The "Council Degrees" are likewise in question at page 51, and it is evident, for the sake of consistency and Masonic custom, the Grand Chapters act most unwisely in endeavoring to control such an organization. These "Council Degrees" have just been introduced into England from the United States, where they were manufactured; but really we are already suffering from a plethoric of Masonic degrees, many of which are of questionable antiquity and of little worth, and therefore the introduction of more such is to be lamented. There are many in this country, and their number is on the increase, who would vote for the retention only of Craft and Royal Arch Masonry, and let the money spent in supporting the other organizations, be devoted to that "distinguishing characteristic of a Freemason's heart—charity."

5. Grand Chapter of Nova Scotia:

The remarks at page 67 are sound, and will bear investigation. The Mark Grand Lodge has Lodges under its banner which have worked the degree for more than a century, and certainly if any body has a right to confer the degree, *it has*.

6. Grand Chapter of England:

It is *not true* that Royal Arch Masonry in England "is monopolized by the aristocracy and nobility." The degree is as much open to worthy men as the Craft, and we defy any one to prove otherwise. We regret the Grand Chapter does nothing by way of representation, and thus unfavorably contrasts with the excellent system



pursued in Scotland ; but for all that, it is nothing like an oligarchy, and its isolated system is entirely owing to the union of A. D. 1813, which connected it so completely with the Craft Grand Lodge, and which proclaimed the Royal Arch to be the completion of the Third Degree." Hence the Grand Chapter is virtually represented by the members of the Grand Lodge, whose chief is the First Principal of the Grand Chapter *ex officio*. I am delighted the Grand Chapter of Scotland has exchanged representatives with the Grand Chapter of Columbia.

I conclude with best wishes to you and all worthy Companions in the United States.

And remain yours fraternally,

WILLIAM JAMES HUGHAN.

In the review of the proceedings of Pennsylvania, the "crank" must have given him an uncomfortable and a powerful turn, for he does so in a carping spirit, unfair to us and discreditable to himself, which, we hope, he will regret in time. We would feel most happy to have Companion Mason visit us in our home, and hereby extend him a fraternal personal invitation to do so, because we are confident he will not regret the time spent in understanding us ; and we also think he is too good a man to be grumbling in so narrow a spirit, and with so much injustice.

We much regret to find the following, as it indicates a great loss to his Grand Chapter, for we think he is the most industrious of reporters :

Ever since the organization of this Grand Chapter, in 1867, the subscriber has written every word of the reports each-year on Foreign Correspondence.

In writing them he has endeavored to be but the exponent of the Grand Chapter on all questions upon which the Grand Body has taken action, and to carefully refrain from referring to other subjects. Rarely has any opinion been expressed on any subject except where this Grand Chapter had *first* taken action, even though friends abroad asked it. This we have always conceived to be the duty of the Committee on Foreign Correspondence.

In battling for the right, against fearful odds, in the dark days when our Grand Chapter was pronounced to be clandestine by the General Grand High Priest of the United States, and refused recognition by a few Grand Chapters, it was decided to give hard words and hard blows wherever we *first* received them. Like the old man in the fable, we threw grass first, and then stones. Looking back over this policy of past years, we would not change it, were we to fight our battle over again.

And now that our battle is ended and the victory won, and this

Grand Chapter in fraternal correspondence with a larger number of Grand Chapters than *any other on the globe*, we believe it the proper time for us to make our valedictory bow and retire from this field of hard labor. This we have contemplated doing for a long time. We have entered into more extensive fields of literary labor, and can find no time to prepare these reports. All our leisure hours are now employed in literary labor, outside of Freemasonry. But within the mystic circle, the literary labor staring us in the face is not light.

And now to our companions of the quill abroad we bid an affectionate farewell—perhaps forever. We have rowed our boat down the river of life in your company, and you have seen the dip of our oar and felt the strength of our muscle. Over dangerous rapids and laughing cataracts we have pulled along together. The merry song has been mixed with the stentorian cry of the oarsman. If you separate the song from the muscular stroke, you destroy half of the beauty and joy our journey together has afforded.

To those who have abused our Grand Chapter, and abused the writer for defending it when assailed, we have not one word to utter. We leave their conduct to their consciences and their God. The world is large enough for us all to live in it and never greet each other.

But leaving this insignificant number, and passing to the great bulk of Masons, who are the friends of our Grand Chapter, and have been from its birth, we have a parting word. We have shared alike your generosity and your Masonic charity. You have put us under so many obligations that words are but poor things with which to convey to you the feelings of our sincere hearts.

The kind words you have uttered are treasured *immortelles*. Like “apples of gold in pictures of silver,” they shall ever be kept bright.

“Kind words can never die;  
Cherished and blest,  
God knows how deep they lie  
Stored in the breast;  
Like Childhood’s simple rhymes,  
Said o’er a thousand times,  
And in all years and climes,  
Distant and near.”

For these kind words, not only to our Grand Chapter, but so often expressed in the undeserved compliments upon the reports of the writer, we bow our sincere and grateful thanks. The many eulogistic notices of the works of our pen, from those similarly engaged, we have attributed to their kindness of heart, and not to any intrinsic merit in our reports.

Most Excellent Companion JOSEPH DANIELS, *Grand High Priest*.

Most Excellent Companion C. W. HANCOCK, *Grand Secretary*.



## FLORIDA.

The Twenty-fourth Annual Grand Convocation was held at Tallahassee, January 10, 1871, Most Excellent Grand High Priest Companion DE WITT C. DAWKINS presiding.

The Grand High Priest delivered an address, the most notable point of which we extract, as fairly showing the condition of Royal Arch Masonry in that jurisdiction.

When you come to review the operations of Royal Arch Masonry in this Grand Jurisdiction for the past Masonic year, you will not likely find that much rapid progress has been made, nor could it be reasonably expected. Yet the evidence of moderate success and the elements of steadiness and future prosperity are with us.

Our people, like children and cripples, learning and relearning to walk, are beginning, if but slowly, to survive the misfortunes and hardships of the past, and when the sprig of prosperity has once more begun to flourish in our lovely floral State, Royal Arch Masonry will feel its influence and flourish and be useful in proportion. *May the days of former prosperity ere long return, and even be exceeded, and then may all in the land be glad.*

To which we respond, Amen, so mote it be.

The Committee on Credentials and Returns reported as follows:

Your Committee would call attention to the fact that several of the Chapters in this jurisdiction are unrepresented at the present Convocation, and that some are from one to three years in arrears to the Grand Chapter. These things should not be, and therefore we would urge the Grand Chapter to adopt some measures to compel Chapters in this situation to make the necessary returns and pay their dues promptly.

Our system is as follows (see Constitution of Grand Chapter of Pennsylvania, page 50, Section 78):—"With every return shall be transmitted the fees and dues to the Grand Chapter which have accrued thereon, and any Chapter or Lodge in arrears for the dues of two years, shall be notified thereof by the Grand Secretary, and if such arrears be not discharged within six months from the date of the said notice, the warrant of the defaulting Chapter or Lodge is *ipso facto* suspended, and unless cause be shown to the contrary, may be vacated at the next or any subsequent Quarterly Communication of the Grand Chapter. During the suspension of any Chapter or Lodge, for either of the causes mentioned in this and the next pre-

ceding section, its representatives cannot be admitted to the Communications of the Grand Chapter."

The Report on Foreign Correspondence was presented by Companion Thomas A. Carruth, and was prepared under difficulties such as few would have been able to bear up under, as the following will show :

In entering again upon the pleasant duty of writing a report for your Committee on Foreign Correspondence, we had hoped to have had no occasion for rendering any excuse for its shortcomings other than the want of ability on the part of the writer, and had the work commenced in time to make the report without haste ; but

"The best laid schemes of mice and men  
Gang aft aglee."

On the night of the 13th December, the dwelling of the writer was entirely consumed by fire, leaving himself and family homeless, and destroying much valuable property, among which was the labor commenced, and in a fair way of completion, of this report. The cares and anxieties consequent upon such a misfortune, and the labor incident upon getting another shelter for wife and children, have so drawn upon our time as to prevent another commencement of work on the report until now, December 29, when we begin *de novo*, and throw ourselves upon the Masonic charity of our Companions at home and abroad.

Companion Carruth has our deepest sympathy in his misfortunes, (though happily he is well over them at this time,) and we admire his "*pluck*," in preparing so excellent a report on the heels of such a calamity. His report embraces the doings of twenty-eight Grand Chapters, Pennsylvania for 1868 and 1869 being among the number, and is marked by great ability, careful study, and, withal, written in such a pleasant, cheerful strain, as to furnish no clue to the great mental suffering he must have endured. We say all honor to Thomas A. Carruth, and if the Grand High Priest had a few more such men in his Grand Chapter he would not have to wait long for the better days to come.

We extract the following from his review of Delaware, and endorse the sentiment, notwithstanding our excellent friend and Companion Past Grand High Priest George Griscom entertained opposite views, for which he has been very generally but kindly criticized :

We may pardon the Companions constituting that Committee for making no report from the proceedings of other Grand Chapters, on



the ground of want of time for the accomplishment of the work, but cannot agree with their over-scrupulous modesty. While the Committee may be right in their conclusion, "that it is not the province of a Committee of Correspondence to discuss the various points of Masonic law, and to pronounce opinions in relation thereto," we do think that there can be no possible use for such a Committee, if it is to observe such a marked "modest reticence of judgment concerning the affairs of other Grand Bodies" as to keep their own Grand Chapter in blissful ignorance of all that transpires outside of their own borders.

What is the object of a Committee on Correspondence? Surely to read, digest and review, for the edification of their own Companions, the proceedings of such other Grand Chapters as are in correspondence with them.

In noticing our proceedings for 1868 and 1869, he says:

From our standpoint we cannot fully concur with Most Excellent Companion Nisbet in claiming that all the peculiarities of the Grand Chapter of Pennsylvania are the only correct practices of the Ancient Craft. If so, then are nearly or quite all the other Grand Chapters in error, for nowhere else do we find the same practices as here.

You will excuse us, Companion Carruth, but we do not claim that Pennsylvania has the only correct practices of the Ancient Craft; we simply believe that we have *the correct practices*, and try with all our might to keep them pure and unadulterated, ever willing to give you credit for sincerity in believing differently, but feeling confident that as time elapses you will find we are right.

He quotes approvingly from Companion Nisbet's address, and speaks favorably of Companion Meyer's report, as follows:

Nothing in these proceedings seems to be familiar to our eyes, accustomed as they are to the old style routine of the Grand Chapter proceedings, until we come to the report of the Committee on Foreign Correspondence, presented by Companion Charles E. Meyer, Grand King. This report is for 1868-1869, and is an able and exceedingly interesting review of thirty-four Grand Chapters, some of them for several years.

Companion DE WITT C. DAWKINS, (re-elected,) *Grand High Priest*.

Companion W. M. McINTOSH, *Grand Secretary*.

## GEORGIA.

The Most Excellent Grand Chapter of Georgia met in Annual Convocation in the city of Augusta, April 26, 1871, Most Excellent Grand High Priest Companion MOSES P. KELLOGG presiding. Forty Chapters represented.

The Grand High Priest delivered an address of considerable force, in which he makes use of the following, for part of which he has been very severely criticised :

COMPANIONS : Another year, with its freight of labors and cares—its garlands of joys and pleasures—its cypress-wreaths of affliction and mourning—has come and gone since last we met in fraternal Convocation around this consecrated altar.

Which heart now before us has not borne its own full burden of sorrows, and been blessed with rich gifts of heavenly joys? To repeat the mournful tale of each one's troubles would draw a sympathetic tear from the eye of every Mason present, and to recount the scenes of happiness would, doubtless, excite the liveliest appreciation in every Companion ; but it is not my province, on this occasion, to list to the one, or provoke the recital of the other, since each heart knows best its own sorrows, and can best appreciate its own blessings.

Institutions, like individuals, are subject to sudden variations of fortune. Now, the skies are all serene, and the bright rays of noon-tide splendor charm and invigorate. Anon, thunder-clouds obscure the horizon, and portentous darkness settles down upon all things ; but to the Mason these changes come and go like the ebbing and flowing of old ocean's restless tide.

Founded on eternal truth, as our Order is, no genuine devotee of Masonry can, during these convulsions, lose sight of the unchangeable principles that govern the institution.

In his hours of affliction, Masonry is a constant solace—in his rounds of pleasure, the teachings of the Order restrict his passions and increase his joys. And in that solemn hour, when the soul hovers midway between two worlds—when the veil of earthly vision grows transparent with the dawning light of eternity—it must be a source of comfort to know that he possesses the Signet of Truth, by which he may gain admission within the white vail of the sanctuary, while his earthly remains will be honored with sepulture and his orphan children and destitute widow will be protected. What institution can do more?

Organized, as was Masonry in the beginning, to provide for the physical necessities and comforts of man by teaching him to construct houses, the better to protect himself and dependents from the raging elements ; then advanced to the more honorable position of



erecting temples for the worship of the one true and living God ; and, finally, when the spirit of true philosophy had triumphed over the ignorance of barbarism, we see the Order exalted to the sublime degree of a perfect system of symbolical teachings to promote the growth and happiness of the soul. Are we duly thankful that our lot has been cast in this third act of the great drama of Freemasonry, so happily instituted for the physical comfort, moral improvement and mental discipline of God's chosen few from the great family of humanity ?

We extract the following as showing our Georgia Companions to be in an advanced stage of civilization, and heartily congratulate them upon their good fortune :

So well understood are the principles of Masonic law in this jurisdiction—established by the rulings of my illustrious predecessors—that no questions of general interest have been presented for my decision. Peace and prosperity reign within our borders.

The following *strong* advice has many points of merit in it, and indeed we cannot too often bring before our Companions the necessity of care in the admission of new material, or before our officers their responsibility to keep the unworthy out :

Mark well, the Order of Freemasonry is not yours to dispose of to the highest bidder, or to be conferred as an honorarium on some profane favorite. You being the consecrated and anointed High Priests of the Order—called to minister at the sacred altar, to read and expound the law, and to see that the ancient usages suffer no detriment at the hands of your officers—how dare you cast a clear ballot, since yours is such a prominent example for all others to follow, when you know that the applicant is not of that noble family of the Giblymites who wrought so faithfully at the building of the first Temple ? Yours is a fearful responsibility ! Palsied be the hand of a High Priest rather than he should admit a traitor into our midst. You hold the potent key that may exclude the unworthy profane from the mysteries of Royal Arch Masonry. This construction imposes a very grave responsibility on each of you—but it is not my work. When you assumed the robes of office, and freely assented to the required vows, you became the responsible conservator of the purity of your Chapter—you cannot claim less. Therefore, when you return to your respective jurisdictions, carefully examine your lists. If unworthy members be found, reform them if possible, by counsel, by kindness, and by pecuniary assistance if need be ; but when a Companion proves incorrigible cut him off, that the healthy branches be not affected.

The purity of our Order is now of vastly more importance than

the increase of our membership. Purge the Temple—drive out the money changers, and all who traffic in Masonry for gain—and once cleansed, see to it that no stone be received hereafter unless it can stand the test of the Overseer's square.

We extract the following from the report of the Committee on Returns, which was adopted :

At the last Convocation of the Grand Chapter it was resolved to recognize, as legitimate, the action of dropping members from the roll for non-payment of dues. In consequence of such action on the part of the Grand Chapter, many subordinate Chapters have caused to be dropped from their rolls the names of a large number of members, a majority of whom, no doubt, are fully able to pay their dues. In consequence of this policy, the financial interest of the Grand Chapter has been materially injured. As an evidence of this fact, your Committee would call especial attention to the returns of Augusta Chapter, No. 2, from which it appears that eighty-one members have been dropped from the roll, and in addition thereto, the dues of nine members have been remitted.

In order to remedy this growing evil, your Committee would most respectfully recommend the following resolutions :

*Resolved*, That the Grand Chapter recognize, as legitimate, the action of subordinate Chapters in remitting the dues of worthy members who are not able to pay ; and, that the practice of dropping from the rolls, for non-payment of dues, be discontinued ; and, that all delinquent members be summoned before their respective Chapters, and made to show cause why they have failed to pay dues.

*Resolved*, That the High Priest of the several Chapters, who have reported members dropped from the roll, be required to report a final disposition of such members by next Convocation of the Grand Chapter.

Our friends seem to have got into trouble by dealing with their members in the *short way* about dues, and indeed many of the reports before us deal largely with the subject of dues and the collecting of them. We have a very simple way in our jurisdiction, which seems to answer the purpose very well, and we propose to give it for the benefit of all who may wish to take advantage of it :

The dues of members to Chapters in our jurisdiction, range from \$2 to \$6 per year. By law, the Secretary is compelled to make out the account of every Companion annually, and forward him a statement thereof at the second regular meeting previous to St. John's Day (the Evangelist), with the seal of the Chapter



attached ; also print the section of the by-law governing the case, which provides that if his dues be not paid by or at the regular meeting in December, he is liable to be suspended for non-payment of dues ; if he then fails to pay up his indebtedness, he is formally suspended from all the rights and benefits of Royal Arch Masonry, and remains so until he liquidates the amount. When he is restored to good Masonic standing, he may then again become a member by complying with the forms made and provided.

They have a good-natured way in Georgia of doing things, as will be seen by the following :

Companion Pollard, Grand Treasurer, in compliance with the request of Companion G. T. Anderson, returned his (Companion Anderson's) script to the Grand Chapter, whereupon Companion Mayer offered the following resolution, which was adopted :

*Resolved*, That all Companions holding script issued by order of the Grand Chapter, be requested to do as Companion Anderson has done.

The Report on Foreign Correspondence was presented by Companion J. Emmett Blackshear, and comprises a review of twenty-five Grand Chapters, abstract of Pennsylvania from 1767 to 1864 included.

He seems to have been guided by a desire to make a good report, in which he has admirably succeeded. While favorable to the General Grand Chapter, he does not seem to have a very favorable opinion of it as it was then constituted. We quote as follows :

We must confess that there is to us something very pleasing in the thought of being "lionized, puffed off on an excursion, feasted," and the like, and as we are just now an aspirant to the high honor of going as a representative to the next triennial session of the General Grand Chapter, we are not going to be led into saying anything disrespectful of that august body. True, our Grand Chapter decided some years since, not to send representatives in future to the General Grand Chapter, but ours being a *case of emergency*, we expect a *Dispensation* to be granted in our behalf. Why should it not be? We need recreation—a pleasant trip of the kind would be beneficial both to our health and spirits, and the Grand Chapter ought certainly to be willing to pay for it.

Companion Chadwick seems to be fearfully apprehensive that the General Grand Chapter is usurping authority that legitimately belongs to the State Grand Chapters alone. Now the objection *we* have to the General Grand Chapter is, that it is a body without authority to enforce its edicts. Invest it with power by which it would be able to maintain its dignity and importance, and we will give it our hearty support, for we are in favor of having *one head* for the Royal Craft

in this country at least. Indeed, we have never been satisfied that it would not be better for Symbolic Masonry if we had a National Grand Lodge; and if Solomon was still living we would be in favor of making him Grand Master of all the earth. "Too many cooks spoil the broth," and too many heads will keep the system constantly deranged.

He quotes largely from our Reprint, and says it will be impossible for us to do justice to the matter contained in this volume in the short space allotted to us in our report, and we would advise all who would be familiar with the early history of Royal Arch Masonry on this Continent, to procure a copy of the work, &c. Speaking of the proceedings of the Annual Convocation, he states that Companion Michael Nisbet, Most Excellent Grand High Priest, delivered a lengthy and very able address, which shows that he had been a faithful and efficient officer. He quotes approvingly from the address; and from what he terms the able Report on Correspondence from Companion GEORGE GRISCOM.

MOSES P. KELLOGG, (re-elected,) *Most Excellent High Priest.*

J. EMMETT BLACKSHEAR, (re-elected,) *Grand Secretary.*

## GEORGIA.

1872.

The Annual Convocation was held in the city of Augusta, April 24, 1872, Most Excellent Grand High Priest Companion MOSES P. KELLOGG presiding.

The Grand High Priest delivered an address, covering all the points of interest to the members of his jurisdiction. Explaining the absence of the Report on Foreign Correspondence, he states that the treasury of the Grand Chapter having been for some time in an embarrassed condition, he deemed it best to allow this Communication to pass without preparing a report. In his address he answers some of the criticisms on his former address on the "Signet of Truth" matter, as follows:

If the Companion supposed that I meant that becoming a member of a Masonic body would, *per se*, without practicing its divine principles, entitle an initiate to claim the right to the Signet of Truth, then he has grossly misapprehended the general tenor of my addresses of 1870 and 1871. In the one of 1870, I attempted to show that in the wide-spread demoralization of society, Masonry, being founded on the immutable principles of eternal Truth, had been



able to withstand all the rude shocks of revolution that has shattered kingdoms, empires and republics—to peacefully minister at the Altars of divine Truth, Science and Art, numbering among its votaries some of the purest, most learned and pious of all ages—the consecrated instrument of God to preserve intact the Holy Book of the Law, at a crisis when all human institutions were unworthy of being entrusted with the sacred treasure—to withstand all the fierce upheavals of human passions, standing to-day a monument of inspired wisdom. In my last address, I sought to supplement the former by illustrating the *necessity* of every Mason living up to the high and holy standard of being *without spot or blemish* ere he could reasonably claim to be invested with the Signet of Truth. If such an offering be unacceptable to Deity—then I have read in vain. It was the death of such a Mason, and only such, that I was holding up to view when I used the language quoted and condemned in such strong terms. I had supposed that the fact of a man having received all the degrees of Masonry does not, *per se*, make him a Mason, to be too bold a truth to require repetition. Does the Doctor claim that the church, *per se*, can save a single soul? If so, it must follow as a logical sequence that it should save all who become members. And yet we read that on a certain time “many shall cry, Lord! Lord! in thy name have we done many mighty works.” The response is too familiar to require repetition. Mere professions, like *metallic* Signets of Truth, will fail to secure admission on that day—naught but Truth will pass current. This, and this only, is what was meant when I claimed for Freemasonry “the resplendent light of divine inspiration with which God has invested it.”

If such sentiments be “wrong and unmasonic”—my positions “untenable”—then I am at heart unmasonic, and the Companions of this jurisdiction should not tolerate my “zeal without knowledge.”

The following resolution was adopted, which we think is decidedly wrong:

WHEREAS, The question has been raised as to whether a member objecting to a brother's advancement, after he has been balloted for and found worthy to his receiving the degrees; be it

*Resolved*, As the sense of this Grand Chapter, that the member objecting shall give the reason for his objection, which shall be passed upon by the Chapter, and if, upon a vote being taken in the body, only one vote is found to sustain the objection, the degree or degrees shall be conferred.

We think that when a brother is balloted for and approved, he should be advanced if no Companion objects; if a member of the Chapter should, however, object, before anything was done except his approval by the Chapter, such objection should operate the same

as a black ball; if he should have received the first of the Capitular Degrees, we hold that he then becomes a member of said Chapter with all the privileges of membership, and to prevent his advancement, charges should be preferred and he given a Masonic trial.

Most Excellent GEORGE W. ADAMS, *Grand High Priest*.

Most Excellent J. EMMETT BLACKSHEAR, (re-elected,) *Grand Secretary*.

### ILLINOIS.

The Twenty-second Annual Convocation of the Most Excellent Grand Royal Arch Chapter of Illinois was held at Chicago, October 6, 1871, Most Excellent Grand High Priest Companion AUGUSTUS A. MURRAY presiding.

The Grand High Priest delivered an interesting address, in which we think he very sensibly called to the minds of the Companions our position before the world, and our duties in view of our exalted position, as follows:

In the infinite mercy of Him who doeth all things well, who is good unto all, and whose tender mercies are over all His works, we are permitted again, upon the close of another Masonic year, to assemble within these walls, and gather around our sacred altar, and offer up to Him our tribute of thanksgiving and praise for the many and manifold blessings which have been showered upon us during the past year.

It is with unfeigned pleasure that I am able to assure you that, so far as my knowledge extends, the year now about closing has been one of great interest and prosperity to the Royal Craft, not only in this but throughout all our sister Grand Jurisdictions.

While we recognize the guiding hand of Almighty God, who has preserved and secured to us life, health and all other needed blessings, what can I say that will be more fitting than to enjoin upon you even a larger confidence in Him, and a renewed zeal in obedience to His laws?

We stand before the world in an important aspect. Intelligent, well-meaning men recognize in us and our noble fraternity no second-rate moral power; and while croakers and fogies are content to live within the limits of their own sordid and selfish aims and deeds, and to condemn whatever might help mankind to rise to better and nobler views of human life and destiny, the benedictions of the truly wise and good rest on our noble and glorious work.

And why should they not? Our Banner floats on every breeze,



bearing on its ample folds an influence sufficient to convince the wondering world that our motive is progress, growth, improvement, and that the welfare of an undivided and indivisible humanity is our noble inspiration.

Under Him who presides in the Grand East, we feel encouraged to go on to even grander achievements than those recorded in the past history of our Order.

With the most fertile soil in the world, the broadest prairies, the grandest commercial interests, the best schools, and the indomitable spirit of American people, who are always rushing to the accomplishment of impossibilities and solving problems before which the Old World stands in dumb amazement, who can conceive of the glorious future that awaits us.

Feeling assured that no good can be wholly lost, let the history of the past, together with the duties of the present, and bright hopes for the future, lead us manfully to the front of every moral and philanthropic enterprise.

During my service in the position with which you honored me one year ago, and which I am here to-day to yield up to my successor, it has been one of my earnest purposes to enforce by precept and example a due observance of our requirements of temperance in all things, and especially to discountenance every appearance of that great evil, which is desolating so many homes, ruining so many of earth's brightest intellectual jewels, and threatening even our national perpetuity; and it gives me much satisfaction to be able to state to you, that throughout the length and breadth of this Grand Jurisdiction, there is a commendable improvement in this, and consequently every moral direction, and I rejoice to congratulate you upon the continued progress of our Order everywhere.

He reports many matters of routine, such as dispensations granted, his acts and impressions concerning the General Grand Chapter at its late Triennial Session, &c.

The Report on Foreign Correspondence was presented by Companion James H. Miles, and embraces an intelligent and able review of thirty-eight Grand Chapters. Pennsylvania is not among the number, although he honors us with a record of being in correspondence with that Grand Chapter. We find many sensible and telling points in his review, and think he has given his Companions a very pleasant work. We certainly found it so.

We think we were unfortunate in not getting our proceedings before you, Companion Miles, but feel sure that Uncle Sam is the culprit, not our Grand Secretary.

Most Excellent JAMES A. HAWLEY, (re-elected,) *Grand High Priest.*

Most Excellent JAMES H. MILES, (re-elected,) *Grand Secretary.*

## INDIANA.

The Twenty-sixth Annual Communication of the Most Excellent Grand Chapter of Indiana was held in the city of Logansport on the 18th of October, 1871, Most Excellent Grand High Priest Companion REES J. CHESTNUTWOOD presiding.

The Grand High Priest delivered an address of a local character, including a description of his visit to Baltimore in September.

He gives a list of the Chapters in correspondence with them, including the name and address of the Grand High Priest and Grand Secretary, and says :

This being all the Grand Chapters with whom we are in correspondence, I believe, except New Hampshire, Vermont and Texas, which, for some cause, have failed to forward their proceedings. Many of the above Grand Chapters speak in flattering terms of this Grand Body, but it is not expected, in the time allotted me, that I review their acts. This would occupy more time and space than I have at present, even had I the ability to do the subject justice. They all with one accord agree that Capitular Masonry in their several jurisdictions is on the increase, as it must, and will be, whatever true light and information is dispensed.

A Committee, consisting of five members of the Grand Chapter, among whom were the Grand High Priest and a Past Grand King, visited the General Grand Chapter at its Triennial Grand Convocation, and made a full report upon its proceedings. Among other things the following occurs, and as it shows the candid feeling of those who are its devoted friends, we are compelled to accept it as the true estimate in which it is held :

*“ Resolved, That this General Grand Chapter, having failed to determine on any specific mode of work, that it is urgently recommended to the officers of the Grand Chapters, by careful investigation, to make themselves acquainted with the ancient work of the Order, and to disseminate it among their respective subordinates.”*

Here the matter seems to have rested, so far as the General Grand Chapter is concerned.

In accordance with the provisions of the foregoing resolution, most, if not all the Grand Chapters, have taken hold of the matter, and adopted a system of work and lectures for their respective jurisdictions, and have disseminated the same among their subordinates, in each of which there may be some slight variation in verbiage from others, but surely not sufficient to cause any inconvenience to a Companion of one jurisdiction freely making himself known as



a Royal Arch Mason in any other jurisdiction. The ceremonies and symbols, with the great moral lessons they teach, as also the means of recognition, are the same everywhere, and to attempt to make every Royal Arch Mason use, at all times, in the rituals, precisely the same form of words, is about as futile and useless as to attempt to compel each and all to breathe the vital air at precisely the same moment of time, and we are persuaded that the one is just about as laudable or necessary as the other.

We are of the opinion that there is no one thing the General Grand Chapter could do that would tend to destroy the confidence, and so readily result in a dissolution of the General Grand Chapter, as the attempt to compel every State Grand Chapter that has, in accordance with the resolution above quoted, adopted a uniform mode of work and rituals for their respective jurisdictions, to now change the same and adopt another. Before making the attempt, we would suggest that perhaps it would be as well to reflect for a moment upon the result that would inevitably follow.

The resolution adopted by the General Grand Chapter in 1856, in regard to the ceremonies in conferring the Past Master's degree, the substance of which was embodied in and became Section 69, in our Code of Rules for the government of subordinate Chapters, was on motion repealed. This action was necessary and right, as the General Grand Chapter had declared that she could agree upon no system of work for conferring the degrees, and had referred the whole matter to the officers of Grand Chapters. It was therefore necessary that this restriction should be repealed, so that Grand Chapters might be entirely free to act from the best information they might be able to obtain, and not restricted by any side issues of this kind. The resolution being repealed, the entire matter is now in the hands and under the control of Grand Chapters.

The financial condition of the General Grand Chapter did not at all come up satisfactory. The revenue for the past three years was perhaps less than one thousand dollars, which, after paying the incidental expenses necessarily incurred, left but little to meet the expenses of printing the proceedings.

In view of this condition of the treasury, the Committee on Finance, who had the matter under consideration, reported, recommending that the several Grand Chapters be requested to collect from the members of their respective jurisdictions, an amount equal to three cents each, triennially, and remit the same to the General Grand Secretary, in order to raise a revenue sufficient to support the General Grand Chapter. Should you determine to grant this request, and make the collections accordingly, it will amount in the next three years to about one hundred and fifty dollars; and should the several Grand Chapters all meet the request, it will give the General Grand Chapter a revenue from this source of near five thousand dollars for the next three years.

The question might here arise in the minds of some as to what use

the General Grand Chapter can have for so much revenue. To this we can only reply that should the amount be realized, there is but little doubt that the members of the General Grand Chapter can devise some use for the amount. Perhaps they might find it expedient to appropriate some goodly portion thereof towards defraying the expenses of some of the magnificent banquets that are usually given on such occasions. But the request is before you, Companions, for your consideration and amendment.

The Committee on Foreign Correspondence made the following report; which, as it speaks for itself, we insert entire:

The Committee on Foreign Correspondence respectfully report that nothing has been presented or referred to them requiring their action. They, however, express their approval of the suggestions of the Most Excellent Grand High Priest, for the proper distribution of our proceedings to all the Grand Bodies with which we are in correspondence, and that copies also be forwarded to the National Library at Washington. They also recommend the preservation of the proceedings of all sister Grand Chapters, by binding the same in suitable volumes, and keeping them on deposit in the office of the Grand Secretary, and that subordinate Chapters in like manner preserve the minutes of this Grand Chapter.

Most Excellent Companion REES J. CHESTNUTWOOD, (re-elected,) *Grand High Priest.*

Most Excellent Companion JOHN M. BRAMWELL, (re-elected,) *Grand Secretary.*

#### IOWA.

The Seventeenth Annual Convocation of the Most Excellent Grand Chapter of Iowa was held at Council Bluffs, October 18, 1871, Deputy Grand High Priest Companion D. BAUGH presiding, in the absence of Grand High Priest Z. C. Luse, who had met with a severe accident a short time before.

The Grand Secretary read the address of the Grand High Priest, which is marked by strong common sense and judgment.

The following, on Substitutes, meets our approval; and, as the question has been practically settled, we think the Grand Chapter of Iowa had better decide it according to the recommendation of the Grand High Priest.

The subject of substitutes has, for several years, occupied the attention of this Grand Chapter and of the Craft in other jurisdictions. With us, they are forbidden by resolution of the Grand Chapter,



and judging from the numerous applications which I have received during the past year for dispensations to disregard this law, (and which I, being a law-abiding man, have refused to grant,) it has been a source of great trouble and annoyance to the Chapters. In an elaborate report made to his Grand Chapter, Companion Drummond, of Maine, now General Grand High Priest, after having devoted considerable research to the subject, it is shown that very few of the Grand Chapters, and those only within a very few years, and they generally young Chapters, have coincided with our views on this subject, and that in St. Andrew's Chapter, in Boston, substitution has been the rule for over a hundred years; and the General Grand Chapter, at its late meeting, having wisely considered that what has been the practice of Chapter Masonry ever since its origin, as now worked in America, is the best explanation of the original intent of the law, and the construction put upon it by its framers, has decided that substitutes may be used. I would, therefore, recommend that the question be reviewed, and if you deem best, the resolution passed some years since be repealed.

Of the General Grand Chapter, he says:

I had hoped, and fully expected, to have been present as one of your representatives at the late Triennial Session of the General Grand Chapter at Baltimore, but, owing to illness, was unable to do so. You were, however, ably represented by Past Grand High Priests Parvin and Hartsock, and Grand Scribe Schreiner, who will doubtless fully report to you the proceedings had thereat. I understand the most important actions had, were the levying of an annual tribute, equal to a day's labor of a Mark Master Mason, on each craftsman, making all Past Grand High Priests members of that body, (thus widening the base of its affections in the hearts of those who have nothing more to expect at home or to hope for abroad,) and deciding, by the help of Companion Albert Pike, Past Grand High Priest of the Grand Chapter of Arkansas, the true word of a Royal Arch Mason. If anything more was done you will be informed by the Excellent Companions who were present.

The following is taken from the report of the Committee who were sent to the Triennial Convocation of the General Grand Chapter:

Its Constitution was amended in a most important feature, in the provision admitting to permanent membership therein all Past Grand High Priests of the State Grand Chapters. This was a cunning and shrewd move, in that it not only has silenced many of the guns of largest calibre, whose batteries have heretofore been opened upon its crumbling walls, but has now turned them upon the attacking party, and thus added strength where before was only

great weakness. The two other most prominent subjects brought to its notice and received action, were the "Word" and "Substitutes." The former was reduced from three to one language, that of "plain English," one of the original three. As to substitutes in exaltation, the use thereof was not only recognized, but the fact demonstrated that their use was the sole custom and manner of old, and that the rule now obtaining in this jurisdiction a direct innovation in the body of Masonry. We trust that the resolution forbidding their use in this jurisdiction may be rescinded, that we may no more appear to be arrayed against the good old way which here, as elsewhere, is always the best.

The Committee on Jurisprudence made a majority report favoring the repeal of the resolution prohibiting the use of substitutes, and a minority report opposing such repeal. The minority report was adopted, and thus Iowa is still in the rear rank in the march of progress.

The Report on Foreign Correspondence was prepared by Companion W. D. Taylor. He reviews the proceedings of thirty-eight Grand Chapters in an unexceptionable manner—searching, courteous and able. He extracts freely from the various matters before him, and makes keen comments upon whatever he deems of interest or importance. Speaking of the District of Columbia, he says:

The Report on Foreign Correspondence is again by Companion J. E. Mason, and, were it not marred by many unmasonic personalities, which—*hæc olim meminisse juvabit* (?)—would be one of the *very best* of reports it has been our privilege to read. As it is—well, we shall notice only some of the Masonic portions thereof.

He then quotes the following, which we clip as a matter of information for the Companions of this jurisdiction, only premising that we think Companion Langridge in undertaking to reflect even by implication upon our Grand Chapter, because of anything Companion Hyneman might have published, is to say the least ungenerous. We do not think Pennsylvania can be justly charged with being either *a little spiteful*, or *good deal jealous*, unless the fact of our attending to our own business and freely contending the right of every one else to do the same, rejoicing in the success of every Masonic enterprise, whether it be the General Grand Chapter or some other experiment of certainly doubtful utility, but harmless in its tendency. If that is either spiteful or jealous, we do not understand the one or the other. But if, on the other hand, we *must* join hands with the General Grand Chapter, and become a portion



thereof in order to get rid of that reputation, we fear that the time will be far distant when we shall lose it. We in this jurisdiction have no feeling in regard to the matter further than to wish well to any Masonic body, assist where we can fairly, and be on the best terms generally that it is possible. In fine, we have been so modest hitherto, that we have not even resented ungenerous attacks, feeling we were acting more in accordance with the teachings of our Order; but we now think that it is time to pay in kind, and we are sure that in any contest we may engage in in the future, the candid observer will give our jurisdiction the credit of being all we have ever claimed for it, let the correspondence be managed with ability or not :

We believe that the true history of the organization of the General Grand Chapter has never yet been written, nor the principles which influenced it fully considered. Let us glance at it for a moment—want of time will prevent more than a mere glance.

Previous to 1798, the Royal Arch Degree in the United States was a very different matter from what it is now. Up to that time it had been the completion of the Master's Degree—that is to say, Dermott invented (or found and appropriated, which practically amounted to the same thing) a certain ceremony, doubtless very brief and imperfect at first, which he considered necessary to the completion of the teachings of that degree (itself a comparatively new invention, and imperfectly developed), and which was, in all probability, totally unknown to English Masons previous to his exhibition of it. The innovation “took,” and, in process of time, came to be comparatively quite widely worked—worked, however, as a kind of “side degree,” an honorarium allowable only to Past Masters. Its success soon led its “promoters” to desire for it a more extended scope and greater strength than it could have while confined to the few who had actually passed the chair, especially among brethren so slow as were the English Masons of one hundred and fifty years ago to change the chairman of their “club;” so a kind of sub-side degree was gotten up to avoid the original pretended landmark, and also save the consistency of Grand Hierophant Dermott; those taking the so-called Past Master's Degree, however, being called on to pay a fee for the privilege of the short cut.

In due time this system came to America. Webb, Fowle, Gleason & Co., were, just then, or shortly afterwards, flourishing in New England, and, like true Yankees, as soon as they laid eyes on a new invention (new to them, however old elsewhere), they went to work to “improve” it. While one of them added a “tail-piece” to the lecture of the third degree, another got hold (probably *via* New Orleans and Baltimore, through the medium of the same Scottish Rite Masons who introduced the Council degrees) of that form of the Mark and Royal Arch degrees in use among the French Masons

of the West Indies and Louisiana, and probably another made a Most Excellent Master's degree out of the whole cloth, while still another member of the firm manufactured another brand new "Order of High Priesthood," and these they jointly arranged into a system topped out with an improved Templar order to follow after the craft degrees.

They had the shrewdness to see that this system would scarcely win a foothold unless some special means were made use of to propagate it, nor did they, more than others, foresee the rapid advance of our national, material and Masonic growth; so they proposed a revolution, namely, to make all Chapters in New England independent of Lodges, and to join them into a copartnership for propagating the system.

In 1806 this had worked so well that the "promoters" of the enterprise were sufficiently encouraged to extend their revolution over the whole United States, and to claim as their own the right of eminent domain in all vacant territory. In this they struck a chord of popular feeling, as is shown by the fact that this right has been, by silence, at least, on the part of all Masons, even those in Pennsylvania and Virginia, allowed, and, now, after almost seventy years of undisputed yielding, with all the Grand Chapters but two "illegitimately begotten," according to Companion Hyneman, but begotten by a party who went into the "patriarchal" (or *matriarchal*—the General Grand Chapter being epicene, the sex question is a little mixed) relation, for the express purpose of raising the stalwart family now existing in some thirty or forty States of the Union, we submit that it is now a little late in the day to begin to find fault and ask for marriage certificates.

We are willing to admit, that although Pennsylvania may be lawfully wedded, and, like Sarah, proud, and rather than spoil the comparison, a little spiteful and a good deal jealous, while the General Grand Chapter, like Hagar, can only claim the honors of maternity with scarce the blessing of a hedge-priest on her union, yet taking success as the criterion the blessing of heaven on her honest endeavor to propagate the species, we can but think that she compares well with even pure, proud, virtuous, but childless Pennsylvania.

In other words, and plain English without comparison, time and general consent have healed the illegitimacy. But even if they had not, still obligations taken to the General Grand Chapter being a matter of individual conscience, and Masons being lovers of "truth in the inward parts," Brother Hyneman's argument of illegitimacy avails nothing. If it did, it would avail too much, being a two-edged sword which could be used by every disaffected Mason, as it has always been by anti-Masons, to justify the loosening of all obligation and the breaking of every solemn vow.

But a great deal of stress is laid on the "illegal formation of the General Grand Chapter" in 1798 and 1806, for the action at these



two meetings were part of the formative stage of the central body. We cannot see wherein there was anything so very unlawful, or even very irregular. The delegates of the various Chapters in New England met, and did for their section what was attempted in Pennsylvania, but only from state pride and jealousy of foreign interference prevented, namely, formed a Grand Chapter. Whether there had been any agreement not to do any such thing, or any obligation assumed to support the various Grand Lodges as the only ruling head in Masonry, cannot, of course, be known, but taking what we know of such matters by written evidences which have come down to us, we do not think any such vows were assumed. If not, where was the wrong done in forming a new Grand Body outside of the Grand Lodge to take charge of degrees above the third, especially by those members of Grand Lodges in possession of those degrees over which no member of Grand Lodge, not in possession of Chapter degrees, could have any control? To denounce that is akin to that other folly of denouncing the taking of side degrees, a thing which every man has the right to do, and which no more impairs Masonic obligation, than putting in a breast-pin destroys the texture of a man's shirt.

These representatives of certain New England Chapters then formed a Grand Chapter, and the other Chapters in New England which were not represented at the formation went in afterwards. A few years later, and the body claimed to be formed for the whole United States. Gradually, the one or two Chapters existing in the States, or the Grand Chapters in them, excepting Pennsylvania and Virginia, joined the organization. Royal Arch Masons forming the first Chapters in States took their organization, by a kind of common consent, from this general body, and obtained its permission to form State Grand Bodies; not from any necessity, but because there is in all men a kind of hero-worship, which makes a strong, central body, or one even claiming to be such, a good thing to be connected with, and because, in times before Reports on Foreign Correspondence came into vogue, the uncertain claims of the General Grand Chapter loomed up through the mists of ignorance much larger than they do now. So the same power that should establish all governments—the consent of the governed—legitimatized any irregularity that might have attached to the origin of the central body, if any did.

But, as Companion Hyneman says, we shall rejoice to see the General Grand Chapter pass quietly out of existence by its own act, and we do not know but that a *sine die* adjournment will be as good a way of accomplishing it as any. We wish for this because it is a useless and expensive, and, may become, a dangerous body, because it is inefficient for good, and its history is only remarkable for attempted aggressions on the rights of subordinates, because its day of usefulness is past; and, in a word, it is out of date—superannuated. For this reason, and because Masonic obligation is a realty, and,

therefore, no power but itself can loosen the bonds holding the large majority of Royal Arch Masons to its obedience, we desire to see all who are of its family fully represented at its meetings until the almost universally expressed desire for its disbandment shall take the form of definite affirmative action to that end.

In reviewing Pennsylvania, he quotes freely and approvingly of the Grand High Priest's address, and, after selecting from Companion Griscom's report, says :

While we defer much to Companion Griscom's great talent and long experience as a member of the reportorial corps—he having furnished these reports to his Grand Chapter for the last twenty years or thereabouts—we must beg leave to differ most completely and entirely from his estimate of the duties of Correspondence Committees. We regard them as appointed to present and discuss everything, whether law, decisions, or resolutions reported in the proceedings laid before them. They are the Areopagus, so to speak, of the Order, and are, we think, selected to challenge every new comer into the realm of Masonic thought or action, and to require of him that he give a good account of himself before he is allowed to enter the lines, and be recognized as properly there. No writer of these reports can do his duty and shirk the free, fearless, and well-considered expression of his views, backed with such arguments as he may be able to adduce in their support. By this collision of minds, presenting the carefully digested result of study and care, the Masonic society is rendered wiser, and the standard of its literary character is raised to respectability. These reports, while discussing the very subjects objected to by Companion Griscom, have done more to elevate Freemasonry into respectability, and to give it self-respect, than all other appliances put together ; and to do them away or to cripple their efficiency, is to remand the society to its old position—the one it holds now in countries where such reports are not known—that of a mere dining club, where feeding is the great business, and the remainder is shoved out of sight or slurred over as of the least importance. Companion Griscom's own reports are proof of the error of his views, as he is unable to content himself with merely giving the bald statistics of Royal Arch Masonry, but in spite of himself brings in discussions of law, and points decided. His abilities and experience would be of great advantage if he could see it to be his duty to go yet farther, and in his courteous manner and with his logical mind, discuss the questions constantly lying in his path.

Companion E. A. GUILBERT, *Grand High Priest*.

Companion W. B. LANGRIDGE, *Grand Secretary*.



## KANSAS.

The Seventh Annual Convocation of the Most Excellent Grand Chapter of Kansas was held at Topeka, October 17, 1871, Most Excellent Deputy Grand High Priest E. D. HILLYER presiding. Fourteen Chapters represented.

“A Chapter of Royal Arch Masons was opened at 10 o'clock, *when in accordance with the regulation of the Grand Chapter*, the Most Excellent Grand High Priest proceeded to appoint a Committee on Credentials.

“The Grand Chapter was then called from labor to refreshment until two o'clock in the afternoon.”

We think that much time is lost in examining credentials and is entirely unnecessary, and propose to give the system we follow, which we can vouch for as working smoothly and pleasantly, and as the whole subject is regulated by Article VII, P. 11, Sections 1, 2, 3 and 4, Constitution Grand Chapter, we give them entire :

Any Chapter held at a greater distance than three miles from the place of meeting of the Grand Chapter, may be represented therein by any member thereof, appointed as proxy by a resolution of such Chapter, certified under the seal of the Chapter, signed by the High Priest, and attested by the Secretary, a duplicate of which certificate shall be sent to the Grand Secretary at least three days previous to the Communication of the Grand Chapter, said representative or proxy shall continue as such until superseded or revoked.

A member of the Grand Chapter shall not be a proxy for more than one Chapter at one and the same time.

Each proxy of a Chapter shall be entitled as such to one vote in addition to his own and no more.

No Chapter shall be represented in the Grand Chapter while its warrant is in sequestration, or that has failed to make its returns, or pay its dues, according to Article XV, Sections 76, 77, and 78, of this Constitution.

The Grand High Priest was prevented from attending the Convocation on account of important business engagements.

The Deputy Grand High Priest then proceeded to read the address of the Grand High Priest, which is very clear and elaborate, reporting his official acts, and indeed all matters of probable interest to the members of his Grand Chapter.

The following is taken from the Report on Masonic Jurisprudence, and which we think embodies the true principle of Masonic law :

Your Committee on Jurisprudence, to whom was referred that portion of the Most Excellent Grand High Priest's address relating to membership in Chapters, would respectfully report, that when a brother Past Master or Most Excellent Master has resided under the jurisdiction of a Chapter of this Grand Jurisdiction a proper length of time, and presents a petition for either or both of the remaining degrees, with a written consent from the Chapter having original jurisdiction to confer the degrees, and is duly elected to receive them, that the Chapter under this Grand Jurisdiction gains absolute jurisdiction; and upon being duly exalted, and upon complying with the by-laws, gains membership in said Chapter.

In some jurisdictions the degrees are conferred by request, or through courtesy, &c., but we fail to see how properly you can approve a candidate in a Chapter in one State and confer the degrees upon him in a Chapter in another State.

The Report on Foreign Correspondence was by Companion E. T. Carr, and reviews the proceedings of thirty-six Grand Chapters, Pennsylvania for 1870 being included.

We clip the following in his review of Maine, as showing how easy it is to make a mistake even by those high in authority, and how quick the reporters are to point it out:

He suggests that it might be well to make some provision which would enable the members of the Grand Council to retain possession of the insignia of their office in order that they might appear appropriately clothed in their official visits to subordinate Chapters, and to that end proposes that they give a *bond* in a sufficient sum for the safe restoration of the clothing at the expiration of their term of office. Good joke on the Grand Council. Will our Companion give us the probable value of such a bond? or cite us to a case where a Brother or Companion, having become surety in such cases, was held personally liable by the failing of the party to comply with his bond. If we had no confidence in the party, we should not place him where a bond would be necessary. If we do, and he fails to comply with his contract, are we to ask a Companion to make good our loss by the Companion's failure? This may do in the commercial transactions of the world, but it is not Masonry, and in managing the affairs of the Chapters let us be Masons. We are glad to see that the Grand Chapter only asked a receipt, with an agreement "to return said property or pay the value thereof."

Pennsylvania receives but a light touch from the pen of Companion Carr, but in a fraternal spirit.

Companion E. D. HILLYER, *Grand High Priest*.

Companion E. T. CARR, *Grand Secretary*.



## KENTUCKY.

The Fifty-sixth Annual Communication of the Grand Chapter of Royal Arch Masons of Kentucky was held at Louisville, October 16, 1871, Most Excellent Grand High Priest HENRY E. BOSTWICK presiding. Seventy-four Chapters represented.

The Grand High Priest presented a letter from Companion P. Swigert, which stated that he was unable to attend the Grand Communication in consequence of severe illness, and informed them that although he had been fifty years in their service, he was still willing to serve them if they wished. All honor to the old hero.

The Grand High Priest delivered a brief address, in which he refers to their "Masonic Home," as follows:

I am unwilling to close my annual report without calling your attention to the fact that the "Masonic Widows' and Orphans' Home and Infirmary"—the first great organic charity inaugurated in this jurisdiction—bids fair to realize the fullest expectation of its founders and friends, and is entitled to the patronage and support of our various Masonic bodies. Many of our subordinate Chapters have already responded in a liberal spirit to the appeal in its behalf, and we trust that all will ere long be enrolled on its honorable list of contributors.

Since our last Annual Convocation, the Orphans' wing of the Institution has been finished and opened for the reception of beneficiaries, and it is earnestly desired by the directors that the various Chapters, as well as Lodges, will ascertain and report the number of Masonic orphans in their various jurisdictions who may be entitled to its privileges, that they may at once be welcomed to the comfortable and beautiful Home provided for them by the philanthropy of the general Craft.

They are struggling in Kentucky for a uniformity of work, as in most jurisdictions, but we think their effort will lead to something practical.

The Committee to whom was referred that part of the Most Excellent Grand High Priest's address which relates to uniformity of work, after considering the same, recommended the adoption of the following resolution, viz.:

*Resolved*, That a select committee of three be appointed to report at the next Annual Convocation of this Grand Chapter, the best mode of having a uniformity of work in the Chapters under this jurisdiction, and to report a system of work.

The following, (Section 2, Article III,) from the Constitution, we think has some good, and a good deal of bad in it :

SECTION 2. The Representative of a Chapter must be a member thereof; and his appointment, on failure of the High Priest, King or Scribe to attend, shall be made by vote of the Chapter, certified by its seal. He shall not take his seat in the Grand Chapter until he has received from the Grand Secretary a receipt in full, for the payment of all dues and demands owing by his Chapter to the Grand Chapter; and this rule shall apply equally to a High Priest, King or Scribe representing the Chapter; *Provided*, That a quorum can, in this manner, be obtained: if not, the rule may be temporarily relaxed; but in such event the seats of representatives not complying with the rule as aforesaid, shall be vacated as soon as the Grand Chapter can be formed without them.

For instance, we think all good down to “provided,” and very bad for the balance; because when you provide for a temporary relaxation of a law, there is very little force in it at any time, and we think it is very unwise to pass laws which binds tight with ropes of—sand.

The Report on Foreign Correspondence was presented by H. A. M. Henderson, and as foreshadowing the style of the report, we clip his introduction :

We have examined the proceedings of thirty-one Chapters, and present you a summary of the matters of interest contained in these. As reporters we have not always felt called upon to introduce annotations of our own—which could only have the value of personal opinions, but have regarded it as our duty to glean those things which would be interesting as matters of information.

Capitular Masonry enjoys an unprecedented prosperity—as the proceedings of the various jurisdictions clearly show.

Reviewing California, he thus speaks of Lecturers, every word of which we believe to be true, and pity 'tis, 'tis true :

We have noticed that nearly every professional lecturer upon Masonry introduces into the work some legendary, dramatic, or rhetorical conceit of his own. The temptation is to appear to know something that the Craft in general do not know—to make a sensation by the introduction of something considered very beautiful or startling. We, therefore, have been opposed to the system of Grand Lectureship, believing as we do that it is the fruitful cause of interpolations, and that it introduces more errors, in the shape of modernisms, into the work, than it eradicates.

In this particular case it does not appear from the record that



there was any violation of the ritual work by the Grand Lecturer, but an infraction of the Constitution, By-Laws and Landmarks, which was sanctioned by the Grand Lecturer, who was present and conferred the degrees upon the irregularly elected members. But, a Grand Lecturer who is not scrupulous in the observance of a Constitution, is not likely to be scrupulous in conforming to the authorized work. The office is one that affords the opportunity for the sowing of seeds of error over a whole jurisdiction, and from the temptation to special smartness which it affords peculiarly liable to abuse.

The Grand Chapter approved the suspension of the culpable lecturer.

In reviewing Missouri, he also remarks :

As every Masonic idea has its own proper sign that expresses it better than any other can, we should seek to preserve uniformity of language as well as spirit. We are to teach Masonry as we received it, and not as we have forgotten and substituted some words of our own. An interpolated word here and there, by one and another lecturer, would, in the course of time, entirely destroy the original text of Masonic instruction.

Masonry is one of the agencies to preserve the purity of the English tongue, and the moment we begin to admit words of modern coinage, or of philological construction from foreign tongues, that moment we weigh anchor and set sail on uncertain seas, where a maelstrom may wait to engulf us.

The normal language of Masonry is simple, and pure men of correct tastes will admire the sublime simplicity of our ritual much more than when clothed in the metretreicious rhetoric of every lecturer who thinks he can beautify it by his own expurgations and substitutions. No license to change should be allowed any one, or we will be at last confounded in a Babel of tongues. We heard of an artist who once took a pure white lily and sought to improve it by penciling on its petals the parti-colored fancies he had mixed on his pallet. He committed floral sacrilege, and violated the first principles of art, which is strict conformity to nature. Paint is good in its place, but not to *improve* flowers. "Solomon, in all his glory, was not arrayed like one of these." Moral truths are grandest when clothed in severe attire. The adornments of art cannot add to the charms of truth. Let us continue Masonry in that uncorrupted form in which our fathers taught it—free from the garish decorations of the modern drama, and the high-sounding periods of bombastic oratory and poetry. We want no Johnsonianism in Masonry, and naught of the spectacular style.

His review of Pennsylvania is brief but kind. Speaking of the Report on Correspondence of Companion George Griscom, he says :

The Report of the Committee on Correspondence is of unusual interest, reviewing the proceedings of the Grand Chapters in detail, and concluding with a general *resume* of the province of the reportorial corps of Capitular Masonry.

He also remarks: "They have twelve Chaplains in Pennsylvania. The Companions in that jurisdiction must need a deal of praying for."

The only mistake in the above paragraph is the conclusion arrived at. We do not need so much praying for, but are always willing to do our full share, and would rather give a little over than to measure out our piety, as some do, and always stint the measure.

Most Excellent Companion J. P. RASCOE, *Grand High Priest*.

Most Excellent Companion PHILIP SWIGERT, *Grand Secretary*.

## LOUISIANA.

The Twenty-fifth Annual Grand Convocation was held at New Orleans, February 13, 1872, Most Excellent Grand High Priest Companion MICHAEL ELOI GIRARD presiding. Sixteen Chapters represented.

The Grand High Priest delivered an address largely devoted to the doings of the General Grand Chapter, and reporting upon the various points of interest in his own jurisdiction.

The following is inserted to show how easy we may find trouble arising in not making our laws explicit. The action of the Grand High Priest is in accordance with our custom.

I have been called upon to decide but a few questions, among them one arising from the interpretation of a portion of Section 4, Article V, of the Constitution: Whether the recommendation required by that section to authorize a Chapter to receive the application for capitular degrees from an applicant who had been rejected by another Chapter, should be granted upon a unanimous vote, or simply a majority of the Chapter; and, secondly, in what time after a refusal to grant the recommendation, the applicant could renew his application for it—whether the six months prohibitory clause had any application to this case?

These questions arose evidently from the want of explicitness in that section, leaving these points open to a difference of opinion and inviting discussion. It affords us a practical illustration of the necessity of so framing our constitutional rules as to leave nothing to intendment.



I held that the recommendation should only issue upon the unanimous consent of the Chapter, and that the application for the recommendation could be renewed at any time and before the expiration of six months.

In some jurisdictions, unanimity is required, and in others, a majority is declared sufficient. As a general rule, it may be said that when a unanimity is not expressly required, it is understood that the majority should rule. But I conceived that on this particular subject, such a construction might lead to evil consequences. Bearing in mind the stringency of the landmark requiring unanimity to gain admission into a Chapter, and, as a consequence, into the Order, and impressed with the importance of maintaining that law in all its force and effect, I was induced to hold that the recommendation should be granted only upon the same vote that is required in cases of application for degrees or affiliation. Were it otherwise, the law of one negative ballot might be avoided and a bare majority substituted in its place, by the rejected candidate applying to another Chapter, where he would not be so well known, perhaps, and not likely to meet with any opposition, and upon a recommendation issued from the rejecting Chapter, notwithstanding the opposition of a number of the members thereof, he would be accepted in that other Chapter, where he would receive the degrees and become a member of the Order. The law of the ballot might thus be virtually, and, perhaps, purposely set aside, and material declared unworthy by one Chapter, be accepted and worked up by another, through, perhaps, a reprehensible evasion of a salutary law.

Besides, what is the import of a recommendation? Doubtless, that the applicant is worthy, and as such, entitled to favorable consideration. If it be so, how could a Chapter issue such recommendation when the applicant stands upon their record, legally declared unworthy, and whilst some of the members consider him as such.

A single objection is sufficient to arrest a candidate even after a favorable ballot, and another ballot may be ordered, for it is the spirit and intention of our law that unworthy material be kept out, and it could not have been the intention of the framers of our Constitution, or of the Grand Chapter, in adopting that Constitution, to afford refused material opportunities of being taken in somewhere.

For these reasons, as the Constitution was not explicit in this particular, and having no doubt that the Order could not be injured by such a construction on my part, that would impede, rather than facilitate, the reception of material declared unworthy, I did not hesitate to say that the safest course would be to require for a recommendation, the same unanimity as in cases of application for degrees or affiliation.

Whilst we have legislated against non-affiliation and endeavored to recall into membership those who were out, we should have directed our efforts to retain those who are members by not allowing any

Companion to lose his membership in his Chapter until he has been accepted a member in another. By enacting a by-law that a dimit will not have the effect of dissolving membership until the demitted Companion has been accepted a member by some other Chapter, or that one demitted, who has not applied for membership in some regular Chapter, for twelve months, should be considered as suspended, and reported as such, non-affiliation would be stopped at once, and it is only by arresting the evil that we may hope to ever see the last of craftsmen lounging about without asking or receiving wages. It were much better for the craft that those who have failed to appreciate the sublimity of the teachings of our Order, and have become desirous of being relieved of the noble duties of a Mason, should be also deprived of the rights of one. They should be cut off as dead branches and stand as suspended, and thus deprived of all rights, even Masonic communication. Without some penalty affixed to continued non-affiliation, it must increase and become a sore evil, not to be easily cured.

If these views are correct, the practice of striking from the roll for non-payment of dues, must be wrong in principle. It may and does afford the Chapter some relief, as it has no contribution to make to the Grand Chapter for the delinquent member; but it also has the bad effect of increasing the number of loungers, without any adequate good result. The member stricken from the roll remains in good standing, since he is not suspended; he may not even have been reprimanded, and is, therefore, still entitled to all the rights of a Royal Arch Mason without having to bear any of the burdens. There is another subject which deserves some attention. A Royal Arch Mason, who is suspended or expelled by the Lodge of which he is a member, is thereby considered as suspended or expelled from the Chapter, and there should be some mode provided for notifying the several Chapters of that suspension or expulsion by the Lodge. Some official notice of it should be given to the Chapter by a certificate issued by the Secretary of the Lodge, and the information could then be transmitted by the Secretary of the Chapter to the Grand Secretary, who would report it in his monthly reports to the constituent Chapters, and thus the Royal Arch Craft generally would be advised of it.

The Report on Foreign Correspondence is signed by all the Committee; prepared, entirely we think, by Companion J. P. Horner, and is first-rate.

Companion Horner is a witty, good-natured writer, and is always looking for the opportunity to give a blow when deserved. He succeeds, however, in so muffling it with kindness that you do not feel the shock. Companions Corson and Horner are particular friends, and yet are the most severe on each other of all the Companions.



Personally, we like just such spice as they succeed in putting in their reports, for when the mind becomes weary with reading over the pages of the various Grand Chapters, it is pleasant to know that Corson, Horner, Gouley, Drummond, Taylor, &c., are on the war-path to wake us up.

The report reviews the proceedings of thirty Grand Chapters, Pennsylvania not included ; why, we do not know.

We quote from his review of Florida as follows :

The views expressed in the report are generally sound, but we must dissent from the proposition that Masonic or any other kind of temperance means total abstinence ; the terms are by no means synonymous, and none of the Masonic sages of either ancient or modern times, from Solomon down, ever taught such a lesson, and to preach such a doctrine is casting a slur upon more than a majority of our best and ablest brethren ; neither can we find any precedent for the position assumed that the business of selling spirituous liquors is unmasonic and inhuman ; Masonry has her mission, and that mission does not include the prosecution of a fanatical crusade in the cause of total abstinence, and an attempt to draw Masonry from her own path of usefulness must necessarily always have a detrimental result. Let our Florida Companions prescribe, each for himself, his course of conduct, and walk uprightly in his proper station before God and man, and bear ever in mind that great commandment, "mind thy own business," and they will find that the fraternity is not injured by refraining from dictating to its votaries what and how much they shall eat, drink and sell. "Our duty to ourselves" requires that "no man or body of men" shall interfere with our private matters, so that they offend no one, and we have no notion of having the "Blue Laws" revived in our Masonic Temple. Nor can we be frightened from our position by the Companion calling this "an apology for the rum-seller," as he stigmatizes some of the dissenting opinions of other reporters ; but it is a protest against the prostitution of Masonry to purposes foreign from its object ; against the uncharitable, erroneous and false interpretation of one of our great Masonic virtues ; and against the would-be fanatical, uncalled for, and almost impertinent interference with the private affairs of individuals, which is reprobated by all our teachings.

We quote the following as showing an intelligent view of the effect of "striking from the roll." Companion Carr asks the question :

"But what is the standing of the member after being thus stricken from the roll?"

He becomes an unaffiliated Royal Arch Mason, when he should be an expelled one, and he continues an unaffiliated Mason, without

the right of affiliation, until his old indebtedness is liquidated, and he is punished without a trial, and yet, with a stigma upon his Masonic standing, he is still a Mason. To our individual ideas, a far better and more perfect illustration of an anomaly than the famed coffin of Mahomet.

Most Excellent Companion MICHAEL ELOI GIRARD, (re-elected,) *Grand High Priest*.

Most Excellent Companion J. C. BATCHELOR, (re-elected,) *Grand Secretary*.

### MAINE.

The Annual Convocation was held at Portland, May 7, 1872, Most Excellent Grand High Priest Companion STEPHEN J. YOUNG presiding. Thirty-four Chapters represented.

The Grand High Priest delivered an address replete with information and advice. He made the following decision :

An officer is legally elected, and presents himself for installation, when a Companion objects to his installation, on account of his bad moral character. Can he be installed?

*Answer.* He cannot be installed until the charges are investigated and refuted. The objection of one Companion, if found valid, is sufficient to prevent the installation of any officer of a Chapter.

Which was referred to the Committee on Jurisprudence. The following is the report.

As the matter is a new one in this jurisdiction, we insert it without comment.

When objections are made by a member of a Chapter to the installation of an officer, elect or appointed in such Chapter, the installing officer should at once require the reasons for such objection. If the reasons are not given, or are deemed by him insufficient, if sustained, he should proceed with the installation. If the reasons given are deemed sufficient, the installing officers should fix a time and a place for a hearing, and notify the parties and hear them. If, upon such hearing, the objections are sustained in his opinion, he should so notify the parties, forbidding the installation, and a new election should be ordered. This ends the matter, unless an appeal is taken. If the installing officer is not the Grand High Priest, either party may appeal to him, and his decision is final.

If the Grand High Priest investigates the matter and sustains the objections, whether originally or on appeal, his order in the premises should be entered of record in the Chapter, and that vacates the



election, and it is no longer of any more force than if it had never taken place, and his decision is final, and from it there is no appeal. If the objections are not sustained by him, the officer should, of course, be installed.

The Report on Foreign Correspondence was presented by Companion Josiah H. Drummond, who was elected General Grand High Priest at the Triennial Convocation of the General Grand Chapter of the United States at Baltimore. He commences his report in this manner :

The unexpected action of the General Grand Chapter at Baltimore, in relation to the Chairman of your Committee, made it a question with him whether he could with propriety perform the duties devolved upon him at your last Annual Convocation. But as he undertook to perform those duties before he was called to official position at Baltimore, he has concluded to prepare *this* report as usual. But let it be understood, that the views herein expressed are the *personal* views of the Chairman of your Committee, and not the *official* views of the General Grand High Priest. With this understanding, he proposes to discuss questions as freely as if he sustained no official relations to the Royal Craft.

We also clip the following as being an intelligent report of the proceedings of the General Grand Chapter, &c. :

Twenty-first Triennial Convocation, September 19, 1871; the Grand Chapters of Arkansas, California, Connecticut, Delaware, District of Columbia, Florida, (for the first time,) Illinois, Indiana, Kansas, Louisiana, Maine, Maryland, Massachusetts, Michigan, Minnesota, Mississippi, Missouri, Nebraska, North Carolina, (for the first time since 1859,) New Hampshire, New Jersey, New York, Ohio, South Carolina, Tennessee, Vermont and Wisconsin were represented. Oregon holds allegiance to it, but was not represented. The Grand High Priest of Rhode Island was present at the opening, and his name was properly enrolled among the representatives. Of the remaining Grand Chapters in the United States, those of Pennsylvania and Virginia were never under its authority, and those of Alabama, Georgia, Kentucky and Texas had not then returned to their allegiance.

The address of the General Grand High Priest, James M. Austin, is a capital business document, with an eloquent vindication of the usefulness of the General Grand Chapter. He announces the formation of the Grand Chapter of Delaware, and the return to their allegiance of the Grand Chapters of Vermont, Iowa and North Carolina, and the adhesion of the Grand Chapter of Florida. He alludes to the fact that it had been announced that an effort would be made to terminate the existence of that body.

But no such attempt was made ; the matter was not even broached upon the floor ; and the sentiment of the Companions seemed to be unanimous against any such course.

The pending proposition to amend the Constitution by striking out the Past Master's Degree was defeated by a vote of 14 in favor to 101 against it, after an exceedingly able discussion.

The amendment making Past Grand High Priests permanent members of the General Grand Chapter was adopted by a vote of 109 to 7. The adoption of this amendment was a death blow to the proposition to dissolve the body, as it now has a permanent membership which will support and maintain it. Thirty Past Grand High Priests reported at once, and their names were entered on the roll. The body then comprised an amount of ability and Masonic knowledge rarely met with in an assembly of any character. There were Pike, English and Barber, of Arkansas ; Lockwood, of Connecticut ; Mackey, of District of Columbia ; Hacker and Hazelrigg, of Indiana ; Parvin, of Iowa ; Fellows, of Louisiana ; Collins, of Missouri ; Corson, of New Jersey ; Barnum, Austin and Simons, of New York ; Bruns, of South Carolina, and many others who have a national reputation.

Charters were granted for one Chapter in Colorado ; one in Shanghai, China ; two in Idaho ; one in Wyoming ; one in Nevada, and two in Washington ; and the Chapter at Honolulu was revived.

In reviewing Alabama, he replies to Companion Pillans as follows, which we insert, that our Companions of this jurisdiction may fully understand the origin, history and progress of the General Grand Chapter :

He discusses the General Grand Chapter, but does not reply to our questions of last year. He starts by asking "But whence did the General Grand Chapter derive its powers?" and answers it as follows: "From those certainly who constituted it—the State Grand Chapters." He founds his remaining argument upon this. It is evident that he *is entirely in error*, and we ask him to examine the Compendium of the Proceedings of the General Grand Chapter. He will find that, as we have been telling him, he *reverses* the facts. *The General Grand Chapter was not created by State Grand Chapters, but it antedates every one of them which are its constituents, and every one of them was created by its authority and under its Constitution.*

Let us examine its history briefly. Delegates from the subordinate Chapters of several States met January 24, 1798, and formed a Grand Chapter for the Northern States. It was provided in its Constitution that there should be in each of the States within its jurisdiction, a *Deputy* Grand Chapter, consisting of a *Deputy* Grand High Priest, King, Scribe, &c., who should be the Representatives of their



Deputy Grand Chapter in the Grand Chapter. Accordingly, "agreeably to the sixth article of the Constitution of the Grand Chapter of the Northern States of America," the representatives of the Chapters in New York met March 14, 1798, and organized the *Deputy* Grand Chapter of New York. In the same manner, on the 12th of June, 1798, the *Deputy* Grand Chapter of Massachusetts was organized; the same thing was done in Rhode Island in March, 1797, and in Connecticut May 17, 1798. There were no other Grand Chapters in the country, save one in Pennsylvania appended to, and under the control of the Grand Lodge. It has, however, recently been discovered that one had been formed in Maryland, but how, it is not known, as none of the records have been found.

On January 9, 1799, the Grand Chapter of the Northern States met, having under it the four *Deputy* Grand Chapters above named, being all there were then in the country. It then amended its Constitution, taking the name of the General Grand Royal Arch Chapter for the Northern States, and provided that the Deputy Grand Chapters should in future be styled "State Grand Chapters." And they were granted power to issue warrants for new Chapters in their several jurisdictions, except that (until Grand Chapters should be formed therein) Vermont was placed under the jurisdiction of New York, and New Hampshire under that of Massachusetts. Subordinate Chapters when constituted were required to conform "in all their doings, to the Constitution of the General Grand Royal Arch Chapter." In 1804, the Grand Chapter of Vermont was formed under this authority.

In 1806, the General Grand Chapter met again, all the Grand Chapters then existing (except the Grand Chapter of Pennsylvania, which had not then become independent, but was still governed by the Grand Lodge) being represented, and amended its Constitution by changing its name to the General Grand Chapter of the United States, and giving to the State Grand Chapters the power to issue warrants for new Chapters in their several jurisdictions, and reserving to itself the sole power to issue them for Chapters in any State in which there was not a Grand Chapter. It also provided that when three Chapters had been formed in any State under that Constitution, a Grand Chapter might be formed therein with the approbation of one of the first four General Grand Officers, in one year after the establishment of the junior Chapter in the State. Two dispensations (one for South Carolina and one for Georgia) having been issued by the General Grand Officers, they were confirmed by the General Grand Chapter.

It was further provided that every officer on his installation, and every candidate on his admission, should take the following obligation: "I, A. B., do promise and swear, that I will support and maintain the General Grand Royal Arch Constitution."

It next met in 1816. The Grand Chapter of Maryland had then been reorganized and was admitted under the authority of the Gen-

eral Grand Chapter ; the Grand Chapter of Virginia had been formed by Chapters appendant to Lodges, and has remained independent ever since ; and the Grand Chapter of South Carolina had been formed under its authority by Chapters chartered by it.

It next met in 1819. The Grand Chapters of Kentucky, Ohio and New Hampshire had then been formed under its authority and were admitted to representation.

It next met in 1826. The Grand Chapters of Maine, Georgia, North Carolina, Alabama, Tennessee, New Jersey and the District of Columbia had been formed in accordance with its Constitution and under its authority, and, most of them, by Chapters chartered directly by it. No other Grand Chapter was formed, except as hereinafter stated, till 1845 ; and in the meantime the Grand Chapters of Vermont, New Jersey, District of Columbia, North Carolina and Georgia had succumbed to the anti-masonic storm, and only one (Georgia, in 1841) had been reorganized. But the General Grand Chapter had held its regular Convocations.

Now, Companion Pillans, does not this history completely dispose of your argument, that the State Grand Chapters are the *parents* of the General Grand Chapter ?

But we are not yet done with you. We have given the general history, and we now propose to make an application to Alabama in particular. We have stated that the Grand Chapter of Alabama was formed in 1823. An attempt was made to do so. Four Chapters had been chartered *by the General Grand High Priest*. A meeting was called for May 19, 1823, but there was a disagreement as to the time and place, and only two Chapters were represented ; on the 21st, no delegate from the other two had arrived, but a Constitution was adopted, and on the next day a Grand Chapter was organized. Whether more than two Chapters were then represented does not appear ; but as the junior Chapter was not a year old, the General Grand Chapter, in 1826, decided that the action was void, and the Grand Chapter could not be recognized.

It, however, confirmed the charters which had been issued by that Grand Chapter, authorized and recommended the four Chapters created by itself to form a Grand Chapter at an early day. Accordingly, the delegates from those four Chapters met June 2, 1827, and formed a Grand Chapter, which met regularly till 1830, but then suspended. On December 8, 1837, the representatives of the Chapters then working in Alabama met and adopted the following resolution :

“ *Resolved*, That the representatives of the several Chapters, now present, proceed to form a Grand Royal Arch Chapter *according to the provisions of the General Grand Royal Arch Chapter of the United States*, the former Grand Chapter of this State having failed to hold its constitutional meetings for the last seven years.”

And in accordance therewith organized the Grand Chapter.

For more than thirty years, every officer at his installation, and



every candidate at his admission, in Alabama, took a solemn obligation to support and maintain the Constitution of the General Grand Chapter, as the supreme governing body in the United States. The Constitution of the Grand Chapter declared that it was under the jurisdiction of the General Grand Chapter, and adopted the Constitution of the latter as a part of itself. In December, 1860, a revised Constitution containing the same provisions was reported, received, and in accordance with the requirements in amending the Constitution, entered on the minutes, published with the proceedings and laid over to the next Convocation for action, when it purports to have been unanimously adopted. But at that same Convocation, (1861,) the following resolution was adopted with but one dissenting vote :

“ *Resolved*, That the connection subsisting between the Grand Chapter of Alabama and the General Grand Chapter of the United States be and the same is hereby dissolved.”

This seems to be an attempt to amend the Constitution by simple resolution, but it may be that the revised Constitution was amended accordingly and unanimously adopted, *without lying over one year, as the Constitution itself required*. If we look to the validity of the proceedings, either horn of the dilemma would seem to be fatal to them. But we do not mention this to make a point of it. We desire to ask Companion Pillans if this action was consistent with the obligations which he and his associates have many times taken in relation to the General Grand Chapter. It was taken in dark and troublous times, but now it can be examined in the light of history and in the absence of the terrible excitement attending its adoption. Can it be sustained? If not, we know our Alabama Companions too well to argue that if it cannot be on the score of duty, considerations of policy and usefulness do not have a feather's weight.

We call upon our Companion to point out, if he can, a single error in our historical statement, and if he cannot, to answer the question squarely, whether the General Grand Chapter is not the parent of the Grand Chapters; and if it is, whether the jurisdiction it has over them can be thrown off by them, without its consent; and whether we can thus be absolved from the obligations we have voluntarily taken to support it.

We have devoted this space to this question to dispose of it once for all, and because Companion Pillans invited this discussion by taking issue with us in a former report, and maintaining that the State Grand Chapters constituted the General Grand Chapter, as he does in the report now under view.

Of Companion Mason, of the District of Columbia, he says :

The Report on Correspondence (50 pages) was presented by Companion John Edwin Mason. Last year we had occasion to rebuke him mildly for an unkind allusion to Companion Todd, of Louisiana,

which we *then* thought was rather the result of carelessness than intention. But he makes no retraction nor explanation, and so we must conclude that we were in error and were too charitable to him.

Again he says, in reply to Companion Mason's insinuations against him (Companion Drummond) in reference to the General Grand Chapter:

If he means by that, that we informed him directly or indirectly, or in any manner intimated, that we wished or *were willing* to be General Grand High Priest, all we have to say is, *that it is not true*. We regret to speak thus, and were inclined to pass over this without notice. We were willing to leave the record speak for itself; but deemed it due to our self-respect to notice the allegations, concerning which the record does not speak, and we have done so as briefly as practicable.

In concluding his report, he thus takes leave of his friends:

We have prepared the Report on Correspondence for this Grand Chapter (as well as the other Grand Bodies) for the past eight years. Companion Pearl, our predecessor, served fourteen years in the Grand Chapter and seventeen in the Grand Lodge. The labor, formerly but trifling, has come to be very great; as the labor of preparing these reports has increased, so has their importance; and we consider this department of Masonic labor as one of the most important and responsible in the whole routine.

For the reason given in the first paragraph of our report, we now retire from the Committee in the Grand Chapter. Other reasons tend to the same result, if that were not of itself decisive. We have learned that the time to which we all look forward, when our other labors will be less and we have more time to devote to Masonry, is always *coming*—and as we grow older, is more and more distant.

The performance of the duties of this Committee has been exceedingly pleasant and agreeable. The acquaintance we have formed with Companions, many of whom we have never met, or, if at all, but once or twice, is worth a whole lifetime of labor; but in this case the labor paid for itself in the instruction we have received.

To our Companions of other Committees, who have so uniformly treated us with loving kindness, we have no words to express our feelings. In taking leave of them, we are sundering cords intertwined with our very heart-strings. We shall be glad to continue to receive their reports, and will continue to preserve them in permanent form.

Most Excellent Companion JOHN W. BALLOU, *Grand High Priest*.

Most Excellent Companion IRA BERRY, (re-elected,) *Grand Secretary*.



## MARYLAND.

A Special Convocation was held at Baltimore, May 9, 1871, Most Excellent Grand High Priest Companion CHARLES H. OHR presiding, for the purpose of installing the Grand Officers; the Annual Convocation was held November 13, 1871, at which the Grand High Priest delivered an address full of instruction and good sense.

The Report on Foreign Correspondence was prepared by Companion Herman L. Emmons, Jr. Embracing a review of thirty-six Grand Chapters, he makes very judicious selections from all, and makes a short comment upon each. We regret he does not amplify more, as from personal acquaintance we know him to be competent to do. Pennsylvania receives a fraternal notice at his hands.

Most Excellent Companion GEORGE L. McCAHAN, *Grand High Priest*.

Most Excellent Companion WILLIAM A. WENTZ, (re-elected,) *Grand Secretary*.

## MASSACHUSETTS.

Special Convocations were held January 24, 25; Quarterly, March 7; Special, May 24, 25, June 5; Quarterly, June 13; Quarterly, September 12; Special, October 10 and 26, November 21 and 22; and Annual, December 12, 1871.

All the Specials were held for the purpose of constituting new Chapters.

At the Quarterly Convocation held March 7, the Grand High Priest delivered an excellent address. The following we insert as being sound:

I wish to call your attention to the subject of dimits for persons to whom charters for new Chapters are issued. There has been too much neglect upon this subject. I am convinced that the name of no Companion, a member of an existing Chapter, should be inserted in a Chapter till he presents a dimit from his Chapter; otherwise, a Companion largely in arrears for dues, or one even under suspension, might be constituted into a new Chapter. If a Companion is not an affiliated Royal Arch Mason, he should be required to bring a certificate from the Chapter in which he received his degrees, or from other reliable source, certifying this fact and his standing. I recommend that hereafter this be required.

I think, also, that this Grand Chapter should define the effect of inserting the name of a Companion in the charter of a new Chapter. Does doing this make him a member of the new Chapter, or only entitle him to become a member thereof upon signing its by-laws, without being subject to the ordeal of a ballot, &c., as in the case of others? Having been asked for a decision upon this point, I have given my opinion in favor of the latter; otherwise, how would you enforce the by-laws against such a Companion? It has been claimed, as I understand, that a Companion whose name had been inserted in a charter, but who had not signed the by-laws, and who refused to pay dues, was, nevertheless, a member, and entitled to all the privileges of the Chapter, and that for this refusal to pay dues alone, he could not be deprived of its privileges or his membership. I think that a Companion whose name is inserted in the charter of a new Chapter, as one to whom the charter is issued, is thereby entitled to sign its by-laws, and become an active member without being subject to a vote; but that, after a Chapter is constituted, its by-laws adopted and approved, he should be required to sign them before he can be entitled to its privileges; and, also, that there should be a limit fixed to the time within which he shall retain the privileges of signing without being subject to a vote and the fee usually demanded for membership in the case of other Companions coming with dimit.

At the Quarterly Convocation held June 13, 1871, the Committee to whom was referred the Most Excellent Grand High Priest's address at the Convocation held March 7, reported the following, which we think a little mixed:

Before a *charter for a new Chapter shall be issued* by this Grand Body, the Grand High Priest shall be furnished with satisfactory assurances that the petitioners therefor intend to become members of the same, and they shall present dimits from the Chapters of their affiliations; or, if they do not hold membership in any Chapter, they shall present satisfactory certificates of their standing as Royal Arch Masons; and before they shall be entitled to the privileges of membership in the new Chapter, they must have signed the by-laws thereof; and any one neglecting this duty for the space of six months, shall be subject to ballot for membership in the manner as is usual with Companions coming by dimit. This seems to your Committee to cover the subject matter of the report and questions. One of the questions was satisfactorily settled by the decision of the Grand High Priest, and, being an exceptional case, does not seem to them to require special legislation. All of which is respectfully submitted.

We would like to know what a Massachusetts dimit means—if it



does not mean that a Companion had *resigned* from a Chapter clear of the books and in good standing? If it does, then we cannot conceive how he can hold membership in a Chapter after he has resigned. With regard to his not signing the by-laws for a period of six months, thereby losing his membership therein, we think absurd, for the reason that if it is a prerequisite to membership to sign the by-laws, why give him six months, or, for that matter, six hours? Why not have him sign them at once? If it is not of prime importance, why will you deprive him of his membership without charges and a trial? for that is what this report means.

At the Quarterly Convocation held September 12, the following sensible resolution was adopted:

It was moved and seconded that the custom be continued as of old, and that a collation be provided on the day of the Annual Convocation.

On the question being taken, it was decided by a decisive vote in the affirmative.

The Annual Convocation was held December 12, Most Excellent Grand High Priest Companion HENRY C. CHICKERING presiding, as indeed he attended all the meetings held by the Grand Chapter with a rare punctuality, seemed to take the greatest interest in all the duties and responsibilities of the station, and conducted the affairs of the Grand Chapter with marked ability. From his address delivered upon that occasion we extract the following:

COMPANIONS:—As the annual recurrence of our New England Festival, just passed, calls together the scattered members of the family around the ancestral board, so this, our Annual Convocation, brings the representatives of our scattered family from all parts of the State, and we gather here around our revered parental head, to strengthen by closer contact, interchange of thought and feeling, and the intermingling of sympathies, the fraternal bonds which bind us one to another, and to our common parent. As the official head of the Grand Chapter, I welcome you again, one and all, to the old home, and extend to you a warm parental greeting, offering you its fullest hospitalities.

As in that festival alluded to, they are wont, as they gather at the family board, to recount the blessings and joys, and, perchance, the sorrows of the past year, so it is fitting that on this occasion we too should review the events of the year now closing, and recall whatever of blessing, or the reverse, we may have received. Thanks to a kind and merciful Providence, we have little except blessings to

speaking of. Peace, harmony, and almost uninterrupted prosperity have been ours, and for this let us be devoutly grateful to our Supreme High Priest, without whose blessing all our efforts would be in vain.

He states that during his three years administration of the office of Grand High Priest, the increase in the number of Chapters was forty-three per cent., and all of them were strong and healthy.

The following we endorse, and hope it may be read extensively in our jurisdiction :

The relations of this Grand Chapter to her sister Grand Chapters are of the most pleasant and harmonious character. For further information in relation to the various Grand Bodies, I respectfully refer you to the Report of the Committee on Foreign Correspondence. And in this connection, I venture to suggest, that I think we give too little attention to this report. Heretofore, it has been customary to print it with our proceedings without submitting it to the Grand Chapter. The time and labor bestowed upon it is very great, as, from experience, I have had good reason to know, and I think it is due to the Committee, as well as to this body, that it should be read in the presence of, and adopted by, the Grand Chapter, and thus the services of the Committee be more fully recognized. I do not think we have any reason to fear that the present Committee, or the intelligent persons who are sure to be appointed on it, will be likely to express opinions which we shall dissent from ; but as the opinions expressed by the Committee are generally accepted as those of the Grand Chapter, it gives them great power and influence, and the Grand Chapter should pass upon them.

A Special Convocation was held December 27 for the purpose of installing the Grand High Priest elect, Companion Alfred F. Chapman, who delivered an address, excellent in its matter, and from which we extract the opening :

On entering upon the duties of the high office of Grand High Priest of this Grand Chapter, permit me to say that I am not insensible of their dignity and importance, nor of the honor conferred in electing me to discharge them.

Many, perhaps all of you, have presided over Masonic bodies, hence you can easily understand how much assistance the governed can render to those whom they elect to govern. I desire that the emblem of authority shall rest so lightly in my hand, that you will scarcely realize that you are governed at all. In asking your co-operation to produce this happy result, I am sure I shall not ask in vain. It is not with unseemly haste, however, that we should hurry



to secure success, but rather through "diligence and industry while at labor," by "temperance and moderation while at refreshment."

The Report on Foreign Correspondence was presented by Companion John W. Dadmun, and embraces a review of thirty-four Grand Chapters, Pennsylvania for 1870 being among the number. He commences his report in the following happy manner :

With this extensive territory before us, we will start off on our annual pleasure excursion, not, to be sure, among the ruins of ancient cities in search of hidden treasures, but up among the delectable mountains, and the Elysian fields of Masonic literature. We shall not go in the express train, for one cannot see or enjoy much riding so fast, but we shall take our own private conveyance, and look about us as we go, shaking hands with every good fellow we meet with, and if any should show their pugnacious proclivities, we will give them a little good advice and ride on.

And jaunts along as happy and serene as his introduction promises. We think our Companions of Massachusetts should feel proud of so able a reporter. Reviewing the District of Columbia, he thus replies to Companion Mason's "Whining Cant" quotation :

Why, Companion Mason, have you lived all this time and never learned that some men were never born to be leaders, but to follow in the footsteps of their "illustrious predecessors?" that, in fact, there are but very few men in any department of life who are original geniuses? Some doctors never know anything except what they learn from standard medical works, and some ministers borrow, at least the "thread of their discourse," from Calvin, or Luther, or Wesley, or some other eminent divine. Most literary productions follow in the track of some popular work which has preceded them. There are not more than a dozen original novels in the world, and yet stories founded on these may be numbered by millions. Now, why attempt a war on Providence? Why attempt to punish these followers of eminent leaders by calling their productions "whining cant," and "common-place platitudes?" It is perfectly discouraging and egregiously irreverent.

On the subject of Representatives to or from other Grand Chapters, he says:

This system is unlike every other system of representation. Instead of the Grand Chapter appointing one of their own members to represent them in another Grand Chapter, they appoint a representative *in* the body where they wish to be represented. And what does he know about the foreign body he represents? No

more, and perhaps not so much as the other members of the Chapter from which he has been selected. Suppose Massachusetts should appoint Companion Corson to represent her in the Grand Chapter of New Jersey—than whom a better representative could not be found outside of our own jurisdiction—what does he know of Massachusetts more than a score of Companions in that Grand Chapter? and what could he do for her more than he is already bound to do as a Mason, or as the Chairman of the Committee on Correspondence? He could not be expected to go against his own Chapter in any question that might arise affecting the two jurisdictions. He could do this, “present his credentials, and be received with appropriate honors,” and then—“look wise.”

And we fully endorse the sentiment—it would seem to us that some person is always looking around to invent some means whereby some one else shall get honors (so called) cheap, and of all the empty honors that have ever come under our notice, we think the appointment of representatives as now practised are the poorest.

The following is from his review of Vermont and explains itself:

Companion Marcy stands almost, if not quite, alone in the reportorial corps, in attempting to justify the use of cipher. The question is, what would be a “judicious use of cipher?” Then again, back of all this, every Mason knows that he violates his sacred obligations when he attempts even to “dot” the secrets of Freemasonry upon anything movable or immovable. We are glad to know that Vermont received so much of her work from the “old Bay State,” but if any brother has communicated the same in *cipher*, he has done it without authority from the Grand Bodies. Companion William S. Gardner—than whom a truer and more conscientious Mason never lived—would not for a moment sanction communicating the work and lectures in cipher. Neither does Companion Marcy say he communicated, but “corrected.” *their* cipher.

Pennsylvania receives a very fraternal notice, and at the risk of being egotistical, we clip the following:

The proceedings of the Quarterly and Annual Convocations of this State for 1870 have come to hand, indicating a good degree of prosperity in this time-honored jurisdiction. Having become personally acquainted with some of the Companions of the city of “Brotherly Love,” and having partaken of their generous hospitality, we can speak the more confidently when we say, they are an enterprising, noble-hearted body of Masons. We always love to see them, and always love to hear from them.



The proceedings of thirty-four Grand Chapters are reviewed in a very able manner by Companion George Griscom. He is opposed to a free and full discussion of Masonic law and usage in these proceedings.

We think Grand Bodies may, and do, err in publishing that which is strictly local and personal, such as names of registered candidates, trials of members, etc. ; but we think the discussions on Masonic law and usage, as they are generally conducted by Committees on Correspondence, are promotive of great good. Look at the Masonic papers and pamphlets that are published in our own country, not excepting Pennsylvania, in which the "ancient landmarks" are defined, and Masonic law and usage freely discussed. We cannot prevent this, but we may in a measure regulate it by setting forth the truth, always excepting, of course, the secrets of the Order.

Most Excellent Companion ALFRED F. CHAPMAN, *Grand High Priest*.

Most Excellent Companion WILLIAM H. THOMAS, JR., *Grand Secretary*.

## MISSISSIPPI.

The Twenty-fourth Annual Convocation was held at Holly Springs, January 18, 1872, Most Excellent Grand High Priest Companion CHARLES T. BOND presiding. Fifty-six Chapters represented.

The Grand High Priest delivered a very excellent address, from which we take the following :

In the frightful and terrible desolation of our land, we should exercise a broader charity and a wider philanthropy than has ever heretofore characterized our noble Order. We should rise to an emergency without a parallel in history. The bereaved widows and friendless orphans of our own beloved State and Grand Jurisdiction, should be our special care. The subdued wail of sorrow burdens the air, and should find a refrain in the heart of every Companion. Active, earnest usefulness should ever characterize us. We may learn a lesson from our brethren and Companions of this place. Their beautiful and really magnificent Temple of olden time was a heap of ashes at the close of the war. With a noble and praiseworthy energy, the brethren and the Companions have erected this new Temple, which we now occupy for our Grand Annual Convocation, and which is even more lovely than the old ; and now, to each member of the various Masonic bodies of the State, Holly Springs Lodge extends the hospitalities of the city, and makes him an honored guest. With such energy and such liberality throughout

the State, our Order would nobly rise to the full measure of its usefulness.

Blessed is the man whose tender care  
Relieves the poor in their distress—  
Whose pity wipes the widow's tear,  
Whose hand supports the fatherless.

Companions, let us resolve to live for something; thousands of men breathe, move, and live—pass off the stage of life, and are heard of no more. Why? None were blessed by them; none could point to them as the means of their redemption; not a line they wrote, not a word they spoke; their light went out in darkness, and they were remembered no more. Will you thus live and die, O man immortal?

The Most Excellent Grand Secretary makes the following suggestions for the financial relief of that Chapter, and we think it well to pass them around as being creditable to him, and probably may be a means of relief to some other body similarly situated:

It may not be the province of the Grand Secretary to make these suggestions, but he offers them under a sense of duty which he feels that he cannot conscientiously evade. As a means of relief, or as a method for gradually discharging the indebtedness of the Grand Chapter, he submits the following propositions:

1. That Representatives to the present Convocation be requested to remit to the Grand Chapter all except actual expenses for per diem and mileage.

2. That the Constitution be amended so as to make the mileage five cents each way, instead of ten cents, as it now is.

3. That for the present Convocation, delegates who may be Representatives to either of the other Grand Bodies, and who will be entitled to per diem and mileage as such, remit to the Grand Chapter the amount they may be entitled to as Representatives herein.

4. That the Constitution be so amended as to make the fee to the Grand Chapter for exaltation \$3, instead of \$2, as it now is; and \$1.50 per annum for each member, instead of \$1, as it now is.

5. That the Constitution be so amended as to make the salary of the Grand Secretary \$500, instead of \$600, as it now is.

6. That the commissions to the Grand Treasurer shall be two per cent. on disbursements made by him, instead of two and a half per cent., as it now is.

7. That until otherwise ordered, the returns of subordinate Chapters be not published; but in lieu thereof, the Grand Secretary shall publish with the proceedings a tabular statement, showing the name, number and location of each Chapter, with the statistics of its work for the year; also the name of the High Priest and Secretary.



8. That for a like reason of economy, the usual Report on Foreign Correspondence be not published with the proceedings until otherwise ordered by the Grand Chapter; but that in the meantime the Foreign Correspondence Committee will prepare the usual review, and submit the same annually to the Grand Chapter; and that the chairman of said Committee shall receive for his services the sum of \$75 per annum.

The following preamble and resolutions were adopted :

WHEREAS, The increase of Royal Arch Chapters, and the consequent increase of Royal Arch Masons, and the growing interest manifested by the Craft generally throughout the United States in regard to law, usage, work, finance, and the means of dispensing light throughout our general jurisdiction ; and

WHEREAS, This growth necessarily requires our Committees on Foreign Correspondence to expend much labor and time, in research and preparation of their annual reports, which are, as it would seem, too cumbrous and long to be read by the body of Royal Arch Masons, and, with a desire that the matter in these interesting reports be made available and profitable, therefore,

*Resolved*, That, in future, the Standing Committee on Foreign Correspondence be advised and requested to condense the matter annually presented by them in the smallest practicable space—omitting all local references—as much of the routine business of the Grand Chapter as possible, and reporting only such matters and questions which are calculated to excite general interest and demands on Grand Chapter for action or concurrence.

*Resolved*, That said Committees be advised to make a tabular statement of the Grand Chapters, with the Grand and Deputy Grand High Priests and Grand Secretaries, and time and place of their Annual Convocations, with whom this Grand Chapter is in communication.

*Resolved*, That said Committees be earnestly requested to use such skill as they can employ on their annual reports as in their judgment may accomplish the desires of this Grand Chapter.

*Resolved*, That the Reports on Foreign Correspondence made to the Grand Chapter of Mississippi, and published with the Annual Proceedings, are to be received and held as the work and opinions of the Committee only, and not to be taken as reflecting the opinions or decisions of the Grand Chapter—especially on subjects of Masonic law.

The recommendation contained in the first resolution reads well, and is all right as a mere matter of business ; but the reality of the matter is, that the preamble and resolutions are of no value from the fact that the whole subject must be left to the Committee, and

they must be the judges of what to write, or what to select. Next, a reporter who wishes to conscientiously do his duty, finds so many beauties in the addresses of the various Grand High Priests; thoughts calculated to refine, purify and ennoble, beautifully expressed, which can be read with profit by all, but which strictly could not be used under the resolutions above. Again, we think the present corp of reporters will compare favorably in intelligence and ability with any class or profession in the country, and unquestionably many gems in their reports would have to be omitted, for which dollars and cents would not recompense. And if the reports are too long and cumbrous, and the body of Royal Arch Masons cannot find the time or have the patience to read through them, we think the body loses much that is valuable and good; but, for gracious sake, give the true Royal Arch Masons a chance to be benefited.

Most Excellent Companion H. C. ROBINSON, *Grand High Priest*.

Most Excellent Companion J. L. POWER, *Grand Secretary*.

## MISSOURI.

The Twenty-fifth Annual Convocation was held at St. Louis, October 5, 1871, Most Excellent Grand High Priest Companion JOSEPH M. FOX presiding. Forty-seven Chapters represented.

The Grand High Priest delivered a brief address, recounting his various acts and paying a just compliment to Companion John F. Houston, Past Grand High Priest, deceased, also to Companion Robert S. Fisher, Grand Royal Arch Captain.

The Report on Correspondence was prepared by Companion George Frank Gouley, in which he reviews thirty-four Grand Chapters. The report is a good one in every respect, such as might be expected from Companion Gouley's experience and ability. Of the District of Columbia he says:

Companion Mason must have been a surgeon in the army, for he uses his pen with about as much recklessness as such a surgeon would use the knife in cutting off legs while bullets were cutting off his own ears. He should be more calm and quiet in his nerves, else he will be paralyzed while writing reports, and he should recollect that we want no deaths in "our society." To the point. He pitches into Missouri as though a Grand Chapter or Grand Lodge cared one row of pins about patriotism in making their laws. They can know but



one duty, and that is to attend to their own business ; part of which is to squelch out all interlopers, and those who interfere with their jurisdictions, and that is just what our State bodies have done under this law, and intend to stick to it.

Reviewing Kansas, with regard to Chapters under dispensations, (a something unknown in this jurisdiction,) he so fully shows the fallacy of the system that we quote it entire :

We hope the time may come, but sometimes fear it never will, when some of Companion A. G. Mackey's innovations will cease to be law. We have as high an appreciation of his works as any one can have ; but that it is not perfect all must allow, and we know of no greater fallacy ever put afloat than this, viz. : that a Lodge or Chapter is merely an "inchoate body."

If they are merely inchoate, so must be the candidates they turn out—in other words, they are Masonic eggs, to be hatched out by a full-grown Chapter. The conclusion that Companion Bassett comes to is the natural one, by logical deduction from the false premise, viz. : that a Chapter U. D. is merely a cryptic play-house, where children gather together with stray china just to practice on before they grow up, and a pretty mess of tea they wind up with when they realize that they are merely children, and are not responsible for broken dishes. Come, Companion B——, let us look this case squarely in the face, like able-bodied men, and grasp the issue as it stands. You issue a dispensation for a Chapter, and to do what? To make ROYAL ARCH MASONS ! You issue it not for yourself as Grand High Priest, but, as Grand High Priest, you issue it in the name, and by the authority, of the Grand Royal Arch Chapter of Kansas ; clothed and covered by the panoply of that body to do the very highest act that any Chapter can do, viz. : to make a Master Mason a Royal Arch Mason, the equal of every Royal Arch Mason in the world.

To say that those who compose it are not members of it, but merely a lot of Companions assembled in another room to experiment on candidates whom, having exalted, are not members also, is to say that a Chapter U. D. is nothing more nor less than a meeting in an ante-room performing a Royal Arch farce, and we deny the power of the Grand High Priest to be a party to it by issuing a mere letter of dispensation.

We hold that a Chapter U. D. is a regularly organized body, composed of its constituent members, and those who are made therein become members, and when they dimit and travel abroad, they can conscientiously say they hail from a regular Chapter, with authority and power to work, &c.

We do not care whether a Grand Chapter orders the petitioners for a new one to get their dimit or not, but we think it the better plan, as it forces them, like Cortes, to burn their ships behind them, and to enter upon their new field with earnestness and zeal, and

compels them to build up their new home as though they intended to live in it, and not to dodge out of it when they see that it is not being fixed just to suit their personal whims. This has been the practice in Missouri, and it works like a charm.

Such is our practice, and with like results.

With regard to a Chapter continuing in session from day to day, the question has been raised by Mississippi, and we entirely agree with Companion Gouley in the following review of this subject:

We confess our astonishment that so old and able a Grand Chapter as the one before us should endorse the theory that a stated meeting may be continued from day to day—a practice that is fraught with so much danger to the best interests of a Chapter, and almost certain to be abused; and one, too, which has been abandoned, we believe, by all the older and more experienced Grand Chapters of the United States.

If a stated meeting may be continued for one day, it may be for six days, six months, or six years. Once pass the *stated* period, and you are at sea without a limit. Years ago it used to be practiced in this State, but only by Chapters whose officers did not know how to open or close them, as *per* instance once recited to us by our predecessor, Companion O'Sullivan. He visited a Chapter in Southwest Missouri, to exemplify the work, and when he took his seat he was coolly informed by the High Priest that he need not open the Chapter, as it had not been closed for six months. His excuse was, that if it was closed he could not open it again. Companion O'Sullivan asked how he got it open in the first place, and he answered, "I split it open." "Well," says Companion O'Sullivan, "I'll hammer it shut," and he did, and brought the charter with him, and that Chapter never got it back till it got a set of officers who not only learned the work, but learned the difference between a *stated meeting* and an eternal one.

The true plan is, to do all the regular business, balloting, &c., and then let the High Priest call as many *special* ones as he needs for work, three or four a day if necessary, and every day in the week; but, for Heaven's sake, let us not encourage such a slipshod way of doing business as would be authorized by the decision before us.

With regard to District Deputy Grand High Priests, he says:

We approve of District Deputy Grand High Priests as assistants, but should not vote to make them members of Grand Chapters, as that would be placing in the hands of the Grand High Priest the power to create an unnatural power, as is the case in the Grand Lodge of Massachusetts, through the appointment of District Deputy Grand Masters.



We have District Deputy Grand High Priests, who must be members of the Grand Chapter, and we find the system works well, as the District Deputies are assistants to the Grand High Priest only. We quote the law defining their duties from our Constitution :

Each District Deputy Grand High Priest shall have power within his district to convene the officers and members of any Chapter or Most Excellent or Mark Masters' Lodge therein, at its accustomed place of meeting, at least once in each year, and at such other times as he shall think proper ; to inspect its labors, inquire into its condition and proceedings, give it Masonic advice and instruction ; and shall report annually to the Grand Chapter the state and prospects of Royal Arch, Most Excellent and Mark Masonry, and of every Chapter, and Most Excellent and Mark Masters' Lodge within his jurisdiction."

Pennsylvania receives a fraternal notice, and he very justly, we think, compliments our then Grand High Priest, Companion M. Nisbet.

Speaking of Companion George Griscom's idea of the duties of reporters, &c., he says :

If our good Companion will but reflect a moment, he will find that the almost identical jurisprudence which now pervades the jurisdictions of the United States, is due almost solely to the criticisms and comparisons of the foreign correspondents. They have, from time to time, taken up issues presenting themselves, and discussed them with a proper spirit, until each Grand body found out just what the other did, and also how various plans of government worked, until to-day we have but little discrepancy between any of them. Fraternal criticisms are always in place, and should be always welcome ; but we are opposed to any such that attempt to lift the secret veil of our mysteries and speak of things hidden. Any intelligent correspondent should know how to write without committing this error. The correspondent corps are the first to put the "breaks down" on the gigantic wheels of "progressiveness," upon which many Grand Officers are too prone to run our institution. Look again over the field, Companion Griscom, and see if you are not in error ; for to apply your own rule, you will find by looking at your report before us, that if you were to eliminate the quotations of the reviewers, there would be but little left apart from brief reference thereto. Dear Companion, this is a thinking age, and thoughts will speak.

Most Excellent Companion J. M. Fox, *Grand High Priest.*

Most Excellent Companion GEORGE FRANK GOULEY, *Grand Secretary.*

## MICHIGAN.

The Twenty-third Annual Convocation was held at the city of Detroit, January 3, 1872, Most Excellent Companion HUGH MC-CURDY presiding. Seventy-nine Chapters represented.

The Grand High Priest delivered an excellent address.

He made a number of decisions, in all of which we agree except the last one, which is as follows :

*Question.* A Chapter reinstates a Companion who has been suspended, which vote is taken by a show of hands, and results in restoration ; is such vote legal, not having been by ballot ?

*Answer.* The Chapter has the right to take the vote in its own prudent way, in such a manner as it may choose. It is the common custom in all our Grand Bodies in such cases to vote *viva voce*, or by show of hands, both in cases of expulsion and restoration.

We dissent from the above in this, that we hold the suspension of a Companion is expulsion to all intents and purposes, somewhat mild in its form perhaps, but still it takes from him (in our jurisdiction at least) all the rights and privileges of Royal Arch Masonry, and we think justly so.

Now, remove the cause, (if for non-payment of dues,) he pays the amount owing to the Chapter (our custom is) to place him in good Masonic standing by majority vote of the Chapter, he then petitions for membership not necessarily in the Chapter in which the suspension took place, for he absolutely lost all claims on the Order when he became suspended, but he petitions for membership, and he must go through the same form precisely as if he hailed from some other jurisdiction, and must stand ballot.

The Report on Foreign Correspondence was presented by Companion J. Eastman Johnson, and embraces the proceedings of forty-one Grand Chapters.

Speaking of the Representative System, he says :

Although we have heretofore spoken on this subject, we desire to make some further reference to it. It is occupying still more of the attention of the State Grand Chapters. Its supposed effect—a more intimate union of the several Grand Chapters—none can more cordially approve than ourselves ; but we have given several reasons for our belief in its inefficacy in that respect.

We beg to add a further objection to the system. *It is partial in its operation*, and tends to create a distinction in our regards toward



sister Grand Chapters, who have equal claims upon our kindest sensibilities. To deprive this position of its force, the system *must become universal* and every State Grand Chapter *must* have a representative in every other. If this is done, the system becomes cumbersome, overloaded and ineffective.

The practice of the appointment by one Grand Chapter, or by its High Priest, of the High Priest or other officer, of another, as the representative of the former to the latter Grand Chapter, can give no new information to either, and the appointment can be only complimentary. If it be more than this—if a matter of serious difference should arise between the two Grand Chapters, the position of the High Priest representative, is one presenting a conflict of duties. If it be said he is the very person to do away with such difference, the reply is that he is no more so than should be every member of his Grand Chapter.

If *any* Representative System among our State Grand Chapters *must* be indulged in, let it be a *real* one. Let the Grand Chapters severally send out *one or more of their own members*, as an embassy to the other Grand Chapters. We would, in such case, entertain those sent us as we would the son of an emperor, and have a general good time.

He notices the following in the proceedings of Arkansas :

“The Most Excellent Grand High Priest called Companion E. R. Du Val, Past Deputy Grand High Priest, to preside, and retired.

“The Representative of the Grand Royal Arch Chapter of Minnesota was announced, when Companion E. H. English entered and presented his credentials as Representative of the Grand Royal Arch Chapter of Minnesota, and was honored as such.”

We suppose if Companion English had been honored with “the documents” from several other Grand Chapters, he would then have *again retired—then again entered* in a *third* character, and so on throughout the series !

Just as we had supposed ! Companion English again *retires and re-enters* as the honored Representative of *another* Grand Chapter.

He then “resumed his station in the Grand Council.”

He acknowledges the receipt of our reprint, and makes a fraternal review of our proceedings for 1870. We extract the following, and thank him for the compliment to our hospitality, not that we are *any more so* than the Companions of any other part of this great country, but to give us credit for a little is grateful to us. Speaking of Pennsylvania, he says :

The Grand High Priest delivered an address of twenty pages, of which fourteen are devoted to a recital of his “Grand Visitations,”

with his Grand Officers, to the subordinate Chapters, inspecting their work, correcting errors, instructing new officers, delivering addresses and partaking of "collations," and sharing their "festivities" and "hospitalities." If any of our Companions have doubts about this last-named business, let them visit our Philadelphia Companions, their Chapters or Mark Lodges.

Most Excellent Companion LEONARD H. RANDALL, *Grand High Priest*.

Most Excellent Companion J. EASTMAN JOHNSON, *Grand Secretary*.

### MINNESOTA.

The Tenth Annual Convocation was held in the city of St. Paul, January 10, 1871, Most Excellent Grand High Priest Companion E. D. B. PORTER presiding. Sixteen Chapters represented.

From the interesting address of the Grand High Priest we take the following, which we take to be correct:

I received a request from the High Priest of Owatonna Chapter, No. 15, to grant a dispensation to hold an election for High Priest, he being about to leave for State Prison—as Warden.

To this I replied, "that it is not necessary, nor would it be proper, to hold an election for High Priest until the next regular election. In the absence of the High Priest, it is the right and duty of the King to succeed him. I regard the *right* of the King to succeed the High Priest as a *personal right* vested in him, and that no dispensation can issue to set it aside and order an election; for it is an undoubted principle of justice, that the Grand High Priest has no prerogative to interfere by his dispensing power with the rights of individuals."

Royal Arch Masonry seems to be very harmonious in the jurisdiction, as the Committee on Grievances report they have nothing before them. We are pleased to find so pleasant a state of facts, and congratulate our Companions upon their good fortune.

The Report on Foreign Correspondence was presented by Companion A. T. C. Pierson, and is a very able document. He reviews the proceedings of thirty-five Grand Chapters in an able and impartial manner. The only defect of the report, in our judgment, is the substitution of certain hieroglyphics in place of words; as for instance, we came across the following sign in his review of



Alabama, □, and thinking the printer had run out of type, we commenced to sympathize with Companion Pierson in his misfortune in having his report spoiled for want of material to properly display his really eloquent words, when, lo and behold, we next found the following, □, and remembering that printers do not have a superabundance of *sorts* laying around loose, we went into an investigation, and concluded □ meant Lodge, and □ means Lodges. A short way, perhaps, to express the thing, but questionable in its taste or elegance.

Referring to Masonic publications in his review of Alabama, he says :

It may be that there is too much of the esoteric part of Masonry printed, yet in that respect we are far behind the Continental Masons, particularly those of France.

We believe in the diffusion of Masonic information by all legitimate means. If each individual Mason was a subscriber to a Masonic periodical, and would read it; and if each possessed a Masonic library, and familiarized himself with the contents of each volume, there would be less work for the Grievance Committees of the Grand Bodies. While in "Masonic Literature" there may be some "*chaff*," yet there are many, very many "*pearls*."

And we agree with him.

Reviewing Illinois, he thus treats the anti-Masonic agitators :

We think Masons are giving entirely too much prominence to the aforesaid "antiquated bigots," "expelled Masons," and "fomenters of faction." Near 700,000 men in this country are enlisted under the banners of Masonry. Its votaries are to be found in all the walks of life. Why should Masons in high places notice the endeavors of a few brainless "things" that can gain notoriety only from the notice that they receive from the fraternity?

Reviewing Massachusetts, he says of Grand Visitations :

As in Pennsylvania, so in Massachusetts, they make the *Grand Visitations* a reality. The Grand High Priest is attended by as many of the Grand Officers as can make it convenient. The Chapter visited is thoroughly inspected—work, records, finances, &c., generally ending with a banquet. The Grand Chapter pays the travelling expenses.

We can say for Pennsylvania, that while our Grand Chapter pays the actual travelling expenses of the Grand High Priest and his officers upon the Grand Visitations, yet if banquets are provided,

they are the free will offering of the Companions visited, and the funds never come out of the treasury of the Grand Chapter.

The following resolution was adopted :

*Resolved*, That the Grand High Priest, the Deputy Grand High Priest, and Grand Secretary, be and are hereby appointed a Committee, with power to procure a reprint of the Proceedings of this Grand Chapter, to the number of one thousand copies, including the proceedings of this Convocation ; and the Grand High Priest is hereby authorized to draw on the subordinate Chapters, in proportion to their membership, not to exceed one dollar to each member, to pay the expenses of such reprint when the same shall be ascertained.

Pennsylvania receives fraternal notice. He extracts freely ; no comments, which indicates that there is nothing remiss, or we should be sure to "catch it."

Most Excellent Companion G. W. MERRILL, *Grand High Priest*.

Most Excellent Companion W. S. COMBS, (re-elected,) *Grand Secretary*.

### 1872.

The Eleventh Annual Convocation was held in the city of St. Paul, January 9, 1872, Most Excellent Grand High Priest Companion G. W. MERRILL presiding. Sixteen Chapters represented.

The resolution passed at the Convocation held 1871, appointing the Grand Officers a Committee to have a reprint of the Proceedings of the Grand Chapter, and directing the Grand High Priest to tax the subordinates not exceeding one dollar each to pay for the same, was, in our judgment, all wrong, and seems to have provoked opposition, as the following will show :

OFFICE OF SECRETARY OF WINONA ROYAL ARCH CHAPTER, No. 5.  
WINONA, *December 26, 1871.*

It is hereby certified, that at a stated Convocation of this Chapter, held this day, the following resolution was unanimously adopted :

"That this Chapter declines to pay the assessment made by the Grand Chapter, from a conviction that it is unconstitutional, and subversive of the principles of the Order."

Witness my hand and the seal of the Chapter.

[Seal.]

JOHN KEYES, *Secretary*.

ROCHESTER, MINN., *December 6, 1871.*

TO WM. S. COMBS, *Grand Secretary of Grand Chapter of Minnesota :*

COMPANION : In the matter of the assessment of the Grand Chap-



ter on Halcyon Chapter, No. 8, of \$105, I beg leave to make the following statement.

Your letter to our then Secretary, Companion W. C. Butler, notifying us of the assessment, and for what purpose it was made, was referred to a Committee in June, I think, which Committee had no opportunity to make report, until our stated meeting of Saturday, the 2d instant.

The report of the Committee was substantially that the Grand Chapter had the right to make such an assessment, and that our Chapter could not do otherwise than pay it. An opposite opinion, however, prevailed.

The subject matter was very generally and candidly discussed by Companions present, the discussion culminating in the adoption of a resolution, by a nearly unanimous vote, respectfully declining to acknowledge the obligation. The resolution recites that the action of the Grand Chapter, in making such assessment, was unconstitutional. At the same time, it declares the utmost loyalty of Halcyon Chapter, No. 8, to the Grand Chapter, and to the principles of the Order.

This resolution undoubtedly reflects the sentiments of a very large majority of Royal Arch Masons in this local jurisdiction. Such was my own opinion at the beginning, but in order not to appear precipitate in the matter, I advised its reference to a Committee, with instructions to investigate and report, with what result is already stated.

The opinion of the Committee was based, I believe, chiefly on the doctrine of unquestioned and unquestionable subordination of the inferior to the superior body. The opinion which prevailed, however, was based upon a strict rendering of the Constitution of the Grand Chapter, which recognizes no way of raising money from subordinate Chapters excepting by "dues and fees." To class this assessment with either "dues" or "fees," seemed to the Companions impossible.

The enterprise to which this levy was to have been appropriated may have been a worthy one, and several members of our Chapter express themselves willing to contribute toward its consummation. But the *mode* proposed for raising the wherewith being at best *extra-constitutional*, the *Chapter* decides, as a *party in interest*, it *may* or *may not* consent to it, as a majority of its members deem just.

I have the honor to subscribe myself, with much respect,

Fraternally yours,

H. GALLOWAY,

*High Priest of Halcyon Chapter, No. 8.*

*Resolved*, That this Chapter is of the opinion that the action of the Grand Chapter, in levying a tax on subordinate Chapters for the publication of proceedings, is unconstitutional.

*And therefore*, we respectfully decline to pay the same—professing,

at the same time, an earnest intention to comply with all legal requirements that may be made upon us, and our devotion to the principles of the Order.

CHARLES RUST,  
*Secretary Halcyon Chapter, No. 8.*

[No Seal.]  
ROCHESTER, *December, 1871.*

We think the mistake that was made was by doing the thing in too "short a way." If an amendment to the Constitution had been offered and adopted in the usual way, it would have been right; but simply passing a resolution taking such power was to say the least going it strong.

The Grand High Priest delivered an address, in which he refers to the subject as follows:

The orders drawn on the several subordinate Chapters, by virtue of that resolution, for funds to pay for the reprint, were in most instances promptly honored. In some instances there has been a delay on account of lack of funds, and in some instances—I am sorry to say—the only response has been a denial on a questioning of the right of the Grand Chapter to impose a special tax for such a purpose.

In fact, the only question submitted to me for decision during the past year, has been in relation to these dues. To such a question I could, of course, give but one answer.

Of the right of a Grand Chapter—its membership constituted almost wholly or in large proportion by the representatives of the subordinate Chapters, and whose authority over said Chapters is supreme, within constitutional limits, to impose a simple tax, for a necessary purpose, there can be, I think, no reasonable doubt. Nor can there be any question as to the necessity of the work that was ordered to be done. By the burning of the   room in this city, in 1868, all the copies of printed proceedings of this Grand Chapter, previous to that date, were destroyed, excepting a few copies in the hands of Companions; and there was no work that seemed so important for the Grand Chapter to perform, at its last session, as that of ordering a reprint of its proceedings, for the use and information of the Companions of this Grand Jurisdiction. Section 1, of Article 3, (last clause,) of the Grand Constitution, provides that, "It may require from the subordinate Chapters such dues and fees as will, at all times, discharge the engagements of the Grand Chapter." How language so plain and unequivocal as this, can be twisted into a meaning the contrary of what is expressed, is more than I can comprehend. Yet Halcyon Chapter. No. 8, denies the legality of the assessment, and declines by resolution to comply with the order of the Grand Chapter.



Notwithstanding the above, the following was the sense of the Grand Chapter upon the subject :

The majority of the Committee on Masonic Jurisprudence submitted the following report :

*To the Most Worshipful the Grand Chapter of Royal Arch Masons :*

The undersigned, a majority of your Committee on Jurisprudence, beg leave to report, that they have had under consideration the resolution of this Grand Chapter, adopted at its last session, authorizing and requiring a special assessment upon subordinate Chapters, not exceeding one dollar *per capita* upon the members thereof, for the purpose of defraying the expense of republishing the Proceedings of this Grand Chapter, and the action of Winona Chapter, No. 5, and Halcyon Chapter, No. 8, in refusing to pay said assessment, upon the ground that the Grand Chapter exceeded its authority in authorizing such assessment.

We deem it undeniably true, that the Grand Chapter have only such authority as is given by the Constitution under which it is organized, and cannot act in contravention of that instrument, and by such action bind subordinate Chapters in this jurisdiction.

The Constitution gives to this Grand Chapter power to require of subordinate Chapters the payment of such *fees* and *dues* as will at all times discharge the obligations of the Grand Chapter.

The same Constitution declares that each Chapter shall pay a *fee* of one hundred dollars for a charter, and the by-laws provide that each Chapter shall pay three dollars as *dues* for each exaltation.

This *fee* cannot be increased or diminished except by an alteration of the Constitution in the mode therein prescribed ; and the dues fixed by the by-laws can only be varied by a change in those by-laws, made in the manner pointed out by the by-laws themselves.

By the resolution of the Grand Chapter levying this tax, it was not attempted to amend or change the Constitution or By-Laws in any particular, and unless some authority in the Constitution, which has been overlooked by us, can be pointed to authorizing this special assessment, it would follow that the action of the Grand Chapter was without binding force.

We have been unable to find any such authority, and therefore report the following resolution :

*Resolved*, That the action of this Grand Chapter, at its last session, levying a tax upon subordinate Chapters, not exceeding one dollar *per capita* upon the members thereof, to provide funds for the republication of the Grand Chapter Proceedings, was unauthorized by the Constitution and By-Laws of this Grand Chapter.

CHARLES GRISWOLD,

R. A. JONES,

A. J. EDGERTON,

*Members of Committee on Jurisprudence.*

JANUARY 9, 1872.

On motion the majority report was adopted.

The following resolution was adopted :

*Resolved*, That all Chapters that have advanced moneys to this Grand Chapter, for the purpose of assisting in paying for the reprint of Grand Chapter Proceedings, shall be allowed interest on the same, at the rate of twelve per cent. per annum, from the time said sums were paid, until such sums are returned.

The following, from the report of the Committee on Condition of Royal Arch Masonry, is sound, and in our judgment the subject should receive the earnest consideration of all :

Your Committee would raise this question : Are not the beautiful *allegories* of the Mark, Most Excellent and Royal Arch Degrees sometimes lost sight of in a too great *enjoyment* of certain portions of our ceremony—a kind of enjoyment which has a tendency to make a travesty of what was intended to teach some of life's most important lessons? The step from the sublime to the ridiculous is sometimes a very short one, and a very tempting one, too. Will it not be well to so confer those degrees, that their really exquisite beauty, as lessons for the fashioning of glorious lives, may be made more clearly manifest? The labored suppression of mirth during the ceremony, and the hilarious joking afterwards, do not at all promote feelings of respect for our Order.

No Report on Foreign Correspondence.

Most Excellent Companion J. H. MCKENNEY, *Grand High Priest*.

Most Excellent Companion WILLIAM S. COMBS, (re-elected,) *Grand Secretary*.

## NEBRASKA.

The Fifth Annual Convocation was held in the city of Lincoln, June 20, 1871, Most Excellent Grand High Priest Companion E. A. ALLEN presiding. Six Chapters represented.

The Grand High Priest delivered an address, from which we quote as follows :

At the last session, you adopted a "Uniformity of Work," which, when thoroughly understood and strictly adhered to, by all of the subordinate Chapters, will, in my judgment, conduce largely to beneficial results, its tendency being to enliven and redouble our interest in the great cause in which we are enlisted ; producing a



greater oneness of thought ; bringing us nearer to one another in the bonds of fraternal love ; binding us, as it were, by a fourfold cord, which cannot be easily severed. Some considerable time will be required to become perfected in the work ; how much, however, depends greatly upon the efficiency of the Grand Lecturer and Custodians. The responsibility of presenting the “ true work ” rests solely with them, and, in the language of this Grand Chapter, “ The Grand Lecturer shall see to it that every subordinate Chapter in this jurisdiction work in accordance to that adopted by this Grand Chapter.” *His authority in the premises is supreme.* His powers, duties and responsibilities have thereby become greatly enlarged, and I apprehend it will be exceedingly difficult to find a competent person to serve as Grand Lecturer, who has the time, means, and willingness, to fully discharge the duties thereof, as by you contemplated, without some reasonable compensation therefor. I so recommended in my communication to you one year ago, since which time I have been even more confirmed in the justice of that recommendation. I would suggest that you more clearly define his duties, and that among others he be required to make to the Grand Chapter, or the Grand High Priest, a detailed report of each subordinate Chapter, showing that he has visited them in an official capacity at least once in each year ; how well skilled they severally are in the “ uniform work ; ” the manner of keeping their records ; the condition of the Chapter rooms, &c. ; and believing that some further legislation in this regard would be wise and expedient, therefore I ask your careful consideration upon the subject.

My official acts during the past year have been limited, most of which being too unimportant in their nature to bear revision at this time.

We think the Grand High Priest would be the proper person to enforce the practice of the “ true work ” more so than any one else. We know he is right in supposing “ that it will be difficult to secure a Companion to discharge the duties of Grand Lecturer without compensation.”

The following we think right :

In February last, the High Priest of Keystone Chapter submitted to me the following :

“ A Master Mason in this jurisdiction applies for the degrees in Keystone Chapter, and is rejected ; afterward he removed out of our jurisdiction, and sends his petition for our recommendation to — Chapter for the degrees. Question :

“ 1st. Will this petition for recommendation have to lay over the usual thirty days, or may we pass upon it instanter ?

“ 2d. Must the ballot be by a three-fourths vote, or entirely in the affirmative ?

“In the absence of a by-law, or legislation by the Grand Chapter of this State, I am at a loss to know what to do in the premises. Your answer will be anxiously looked for by our Chapter.”

The following were my decisions thereupon, and some of the reasons therefor :

1st. The petition must lie over the usual thirty days, or one lunar month.

2d. The ballot must be unanimous in his favor in order to recommend him.

The petition should lie over from one stated meeting to another to give such as had previously voted to reject the applicant, as well as all other members, due notice, and an opportunity to be present when action is taken thereon.

The Report on Foreign Correspondence was prepared by Companion Robert W. Furnas, and reviews the proceedings of thirty-six Grand Chapters. Pennsylvania for 1868, '69, '70, and Reprint of Proceedings, receives a fraternal notice.

## NEW HAMPSHIRE.

The Fifty-third Annual Convocation was held in the city of Concord, May 16, 1871, Most Excellent Grand High Priest Companion JOHN A. HARRIS presiding. Thirteen Chapters represented.

The Grand High Priest delivered an address, from which we extract the following :

So carefully were the foundations of the Royal Arch bodies of New Hampshire laid at their origin, so cautious and discreet has been the course of the several Chapters, that during the long period of sixty-four years, the time which has elapsed since Chapters were first organized in this State, dissensions have been unknown.

The Report on Foreign Correspondence was prepared by Companion Joseph W. Fellows, at the request of the Most Excellent Grand High Priest, and reviews the proceedings of thirty-eight Grand Chapters.

He opens his report like a veteran, and indeed he rather maintains that position all through. He says :

These proceedings were placed in our hands so recently that their examination has been of necessity very brief and unsatisfactory.

A more careful discrimination, and the selection of such matter as is more general in its application, would greatly improve this department of our publications. There are several methods of



preparing and arranging reports on Foreign Correspondence, but the one we have followed is practiced in nearly every jurisdiction in the country, and seems to be generally preferred. We present a list, comprising thirty-eight Grand Royal Arch Chapters, being nearer complete than any other we have found—excepting, perhaps, one in the proceedings of the District of Columbia—and it is confidently expected before another year shall have passed, that this Grand Chapter will be in fraternal correspondence with every other Grand Body of the same grade of Masonry in the world.

Most Excellent Companion JOHN A. HARRIS, (re-elected,) *Grand High Priest*.

Most Excellent Companion ABEL HUTCHINGS, *Grand Secretary*.

### NEW JERSEY.

The Fifteenth Annual Convocation was held in the city of Trenton, September 13, 1871, Most Excellent Grand High Priest Companion M. HIGGENBOTTOM presiding. Twenty-one Chapters represented.

In the address of the Grand High Priest, which we think a very good one, he shows evidence of close observation and great industry. With regard to closing a Chapter, instead of calling off to refreshment, he says :

My attention was called to a most irregular practice obtaining in two of our Chapters—that of calling off to refreshment from one Convocation to another. Thus it sometimes happened that the Chapter was not opened regularly more than two or three times during the year. I at once caused the notice of the Companions to be directed to the subject, and informed the offending Chapters that the practice must be discontinued, and that the Chapters must be regularly closed at the termination of each Convocation.

The following we insert with a great deal of pleasure, feeling as we do, that it is sound to the core, and that perhaps we in this jurisdiction need the lesson as much as anywhere. We would earnestly advise our subordinate officers to make a note of it, and remember that in following it out to the letter, you will make a reputation for yourself and your Chapter that will amply compensate for any trouble you may be at to accomplish it:

In my visitations I have found, as a rule, the Chapters well instructed in the Ritual; but I would urge upon the officers less

haste in conferring the degrees, and more impressiveness in manner, in tone of voice, and in action. Endeavor to speak from the heart, and not as though reciting a lesson. You will then be able to fix the attention of the candidate, and may reasonably hope to impress the beautiful teachings of Masonry deep in his mind.

I would also counsel that the practice of conferring more than one degree of an evening be abolished as far as practicable, and only indulged in in very extreme cases; then, as each new beauty is revealed to the gaze of the candidate, an indelible impression is made upon his mind, and he is better able to appreciate the labor that has been bestowed upon him. It should be thoroughly impressed upon the memory of the youthful workman that time is required to enable him to properly understand the mysteries of the institution. Masonry is the study of a lifetime, but too many of its votaries, I fear, lose sight of the first great requirement, grasp at the shadow and lose the substance.

Freemasonry must be taught and explained amply in each degree as candidates proceed, or it will be rare indeed if the initiated ever arrive at a thorough knowledge of the principles of our Order.

They have an excellent system in that jurisdiction of dividing the States into districts, and assigning certain Chapters to the Deputy Grand High Priest, Grand King and Grand Scribe, whose duty it is not only to visit the Chapters in their district, but make report of the condition of the Chapters, and all other points of interest to the Grand Chapter at its Annual Convocation.

They have another excellent rule in that jurisdiction, viz., a Committee on Constitutions; and as the following explains their duties, we insert it. It is from a report made to the Grand Chapter at its Fifteenth Communication of matters referred to them at the Fourteenth Communication.

Your Committee regret they cannot recommend the adoption of decision No. 2, as it seems to them to conflict with Section 2, Article IV, which provides the right of vote to all members in good standing.

Your Committee most respectfully submit for the consideration of this Grand Chapter, that as the Committee on Constitutions is a standing committee, the Most Excellent Grand High Priest be requested to send to the chairman of that Committee, from time to time, as he may render them, such decisions as he may be called upon to make during his official term, and that said Committee report upon them at the next Convocation, insuring to matters of so much importance to the Craft, grave and deliberate consideration.

The report was adopted.



The Report on Foreign Correspondence embraces the Proceedings of thirty-six Grand Chapters ; five of them for two years, was presented by the inimitable Companion Thomas J. Corson, who in our judgment makes one of the best reports. His report covers one hundred and forty-four pages, and every particle of it is interesting. He is merciless in his criticisms, but kind and considerate withal, and altogether we admire the man and love the Companion.

Reviewing the District of Columbia, he says :

The Report on Correspondence, by Companion J. Edwin Mason, is admirably good and atrociously bad. He is a fluent, forcible writer, and a thorough Masonic scholar ; but uncontrollable passions so mislead him and pervert his judgment that he violates all propriety and decency in this report. He is a doctor, and is evidently one of that kind referred to by the wise man when he says : " He that sinneth before his Maker, let him fall into the hand of the physician ;" for such a fate could not be invoked upon any but the most hardened criminals, to whom justice denies forgiveness, for the attributes of mercy and kindness seem to be unknown to him.

We also belong to the medical profession, and we propose to dissect this abnormal production of Dr. Mason. Our mental scalpel may touch some quivering sores, but justice demands the application, and love guides the hand that holds the instrument ; for it is better that the cancerous growth should be excised than that the whole body should become diseased. Vivisection is not particularly pleasant, either to the subject or the operator ; but the general good sometimes demands that this seemingly cruel practice should be resorted to in special instances, both that health may be restored and contagion prevented. That we will receive the animadversions of some for our plain talk, we do not doubt, but that will not deter us from performing our duty. We think that plain talk is required, and that nothing else will answer the purpose.

" If you gently stroke a nettle,  
It will sting you for your pains  
Grasp it like a man of mettle,  
Soft as silk it then remains."

We will not set down one word in malice, but will be fair and just ; for not anger, but poignant sorrow, possesses our mind as we proceed to perform this most unpleasant task. The *esprit du corps* of the Reporters' Guild, and thus the honor of the Craft represented by them, would be tarnished by a foul blot of shame and disgrace, did we fail to rebuke this saddening display of hate, revenge and anger, which silence on our part might be construed to approve. If there be any truth in the Darwinian theory of gradual development, Companion Mason must be classed among the Rodents, for he has

not yet emerged from the period of ferocity, while the length and strength of his jaw almost entitle him to a place among the Saurians.

He is bitterly opposed to the General Grand Chapter, and instead of using argument and reason against that Grand Body, he makes unfounded accusations and indulges in most unjustifiable charges of dishonor and dishonesty against the officers and members of that organization, although defamation of private character is not usually considered logical argument. This he-Clytemnestra vaticinates with terrible gesticulations the utter destruction of the General Grand Chapter, and accuses it of being the fruitful source of all the woes that Royal Arch Masonry heretofore has borne, now suffers from, or hereafter may have to undergo, *per sæcula sæculorum*. He knows, as everybody knows, that the fostering care of the General Grand Chapter and the self-abnegating generosity of the Grand Chapter of Maryland, and these causes alone, gave the Grand Chapter of the District its present independence and equality in the family of Grand Chapters. Those of us who were at St. Louis in 1868, and heard the lachrymose pleadings for help, and the piteous petitions for aid made to the General Grand Chapter by the representatives from the District, praying and beseeching that we would protect them from the ravages of that horrible Gorgon, the Grand Chapter of Maryland, which, they alleged, threatened to devour them "bones and all;" those of us who saw and heard these things, must be allowed to smile just a little at Companion Mason's brave words of defiance and threatenings of destruction to that Grand Body.

Again, he says:

He speaks of Companion R. S. Bruns, Past Grand High Priest of South Carolina, and present Deputy Grand High Priest of the General Grand Chapter, as "the Bombastes Furioso of South Carolina," and as "a cypher in Capitular Masonry." His reference to a remark *said to have been made* by Companion Bruns, *ten years ago*, (which, if made at all, must have escaped him in the heat of excitement,) is more than unmasonic—it is ungentlemanly. *Who gave Companion Mason this information in regard to Companion Bruns? And why did he give it?*

He characterizes the plea of Companion Peleg Brown, Grand High Priest of Alabama, in behalf of the General Grand Chapter, as being made in a "whimpering manner."

His vocabulary of offensive epithets is not yet exhausted—in fact his education in this line excels that of a veteran Billingsgate fish-dealer, for he pleasantly alludes to the "*pompous assertions* of Companion John L. Lewis and Companion James M. Austin." These Companions need no defense from us. The Royal Arch Fraternity of our country has evinced the opinion entertained to-



wards these gentlemen by elevating them to the very highest position of honor attainable by a Royal Arch Mason.

Let us give you another sweet morsel from this inexhaustible fountain of wisdom and high-toned courtesy. Companion Mason says that he had read "more than forty addresses of Grand High Priests at the opening of Annual Convocations," and adds, "several of them have an opening salutatory couched in *whining cant* and commonplace platitudes." Now we have also read every word of every one of those addresses to which he refers, and we brand the charge as an unfounded fabrication, and a gross insult to those several Grand High Priests. Mr. Webster defines "cant" to be "the phraseology of a sect, used without sincerity; an empty, solemn speech, implying what is not felt; religious hypocrisy." Thus he accuses these Grand High Priests of being "insincere," when they publicly profess their belief in and dependence upon the goodness and mercy of our Heavenly Father; he charges them with implying what they do not feel, when they return grateful thanks and adoration to the Giver of all good; he sneeringly attributes hypocrisy to them when they offer heartfelt prayer for continued protection to Him who holds our destinies in his hands, and without whose gracious forgiveness we could never obtain eternal salvation. He knows the charge to be false; he knows that Grand High Priests are not hypocrites; he knows that Masonic professions are not "without sincerity." Are honor and decency entirely ignored in the District of Columbia, and are they no longer necessary qualifications to Masonic membership in that locality!

He criticises the Signet of Truth doctrine of the Grand High Priest of Georgia, we think, too severely, of course assuming that he meant that Masonry was religion, and was sufficient for man's salvation.

Of Maine, he quotes the following resolutions:

*Resolved*, That in the absence of the High Priest, King and Scribe from any meeting of a Chapter, the next officer in rank shall preside, unless he request a Past High Priest to officiate for him.

*Resolved*, That in the absence of the High Priest, King and Scribe from any Chapter under this jurisdiction, no degrees shall be conferred unless a Past High Priest is present to preside.

And comments as follows, which we think is proper and to the point:

Surely if "the next officer in rank" is competent to preside at all, he ought to be able to do so during the conferring of degrees, which is a much less important matter than many other items of business which may be transacted. But we hold to the principle

that the High Priest, King and Scribe are the only persons who have the authority to preside. One of these may allow a Companion to preside and conduct the business of the Chapter *while he is present*—but when all three are absent, the Chapter cannot legally be opened or its business legally transacted.

He commences his review of Pennsylvania with the following :

Clothed in garb of sombre drab, and with slow stepping pace of stately mien, our matronly sister advanceth into our social circle, and greeteth us with, “Peace and happiness be with thee and thine, as they have abided with me and mine since last we met. Yea, verily, we greet thee with the kiss of love.”

We fancy that Corson felt serene when he came to our proceedings, knowing that now he would have peace after the turmoil of his review of Mason, who made him fierce ; Horner, who lampoons him ; Gouley, who is always watching to “boost him,” and even the solid Drummond, who is ponderous with him ; but we in Pennsylvania were always famous for our good nature. That is why we are sometimes so atrociously imposed upon, because we are always willing to be knocked down rather than take off our coat or remove our hat, (broad brim.) Some day, however, we hope we will lay aside the Quaker for half an hour, while we give some of those fellows a drubbing.

He thus refers to Companion George Griscom’s report :

A very excellent Report on Correspondence, dignified in manner, lucid in style, fair in criticism, and courteous in expression, was presented by Companion George Griscom.

And gives us a fraternal and cordial review generally.

Most Excellent Companion T. H. R. REDWAY, *Grand High Priest*.

Most Excellent Companion JOHN WOOLVERTON, M. D., *Grand Secretary*.

## NEW YORK.

The Seventy-fifth Annual Convocation was held at the city of Albany, February 6, 7 and 8, 1872, Most Excellent Grand High Priest Companion REES G. WILLIAMS presiding. One hundred and seventy-five Chapters represented.

The Grand High Priest delivered an able address, in which he



refers to the fact of our Grand Chapter notifying him of a conflict of jurisdiction, as follows :

My predecessor, one year ago, submitted the fact that our Chapters situated near the border of Pennsylvania were conferring the degrees upon petitioners from that State, after obtaining the consent of the Chapter having jurisdiction. But the Grand Chapter of Pennsylvania has adjudged that a "Chapter has no right to grant permission to a Chapter in another jurisdiction to confer the degrees upon a resident of that State ; that such authority or permission can only be granted by the Grand Chapter or Grand High Priest." As several applications from our Chapters had been made to me to obtain the approval of the proper authorities of Pennsylvania, to confer the degrees upon parties residing in that State, I deemed it necessary to issue a circular for the information and guidance of all Chapters interested, a copy of which is hereto appended.

The following is a copy of the circular, and we feel that his action in the premises has been fraternal and courteous :

"In the conferring of the Capitular Degrees by our subordinate Chapters, upon petitioning brethren, non-residents, it is necessary that the rule of the Grand Chapter of the State of New York, as well as the regulations of neighboring jurisdictions, in such matters, be faithfully observed.

I respectfully refer you to Section 52 of the Constitution of the Grand Chapter, for the law governing in this State.

In the neighboring jurisdiction of Pennsylvania, the permission of the Grand Chapter or the Grand High Priest, to receive petitions from their jurisdiction, is also made necessary by the regulation of the Grand Chapter of that State. Such permission may be obtained through the subordinate Chapter in whose jurisdiction the applicant resides ; and, when properly granted, and the assent of said Chapter, referred to in the above cited section of the Constitution, be given under its seal, the petition may be received.

Application having been made for information on this subject by particular Chapters, I deem it proper to issue this circular for the information and guidance of all Chapters interested in the matter."

The following we insert with pleasure, and from the general ability manifested throughout their proceedings, can easily understand that it is even so :

I take great pleasure in calling your attention to the excellent and harmonious relations existing between our own and concurrent jurisdictions. Nothing but the utmost good feeling and cordiality has characterized the year's intercourse between this and sister Grand Chapters. Indeed I think we may challenge any and all

other associations or bodies of men, similarly situated, to a comparison of record either as to peaceful, quiet settlement of differences of opinion or conflict of claims, setting forth in the strongest light the great beauty of our system—Universal Brotherhood. Theorize as some will, argue as others may, the great fact still exists that Royal Arch Masonry has a charm and a power unequalled and irresistible.

We think our New York Companions should feel proud of their record on Charity, having appropriated sums to various parties, which is alike creditable to their head and heart.

The Report on Foreign Correspondence was presented by Companion Joseph White, and embraces the proceedings of thirty-six Grand Chapters, which are handled in a very masterly manner.

Reviewing Minnesota, the following on the question of High Priesthood is interesting :

New York is noticed by copious extracts from Grand High Priest John W. Simons' address, and also our report ; about which Companion Pierson says : " We want to ' put our oar in,' and remark, that the Order of High Priesthood was not manufactured until at least twenty years after the American Royal Arch." Now, Companion Pierson, please tell us by what title the first three officers of the " American Chapter " were known during the twenty years intervening between the discarding of the English titles, Zerubbabel, Haggai and Jeshua, and the adoption of our present ones, viz., High Priest, King and Scribe, if the High Priesthood was not "*manufactured*" or known during that period ? The title, " High Priest," is to our mind the strongest presumptive evidence that the Priesthood was the primary idea in the " American " arrangement, intending to adopt an hierarchy for the government of the Chapter, which is the reason why the term High Priest is applied to the first officer in our Chapters. In short, we consider that our Chapters as at present constituted, are inconsistent in their organization upon any other plan than hierarchy, and all else was made subservient to it. For this reason, Jeshua, the son of Josedek, the High Priest, the Third Principal in the English Royal Arch, from which we have derived our Chapter existence, was transferred to the first office, leaving the " Prince," Zerubbabel, to whom was entrusted the holy vessels and treasures, and the command of the expedition which went up from Babylon to Jerusalem by order of Cyrus, to be reduced to a secondary station as King. These facts appear conclusive to our mind, that the " High Priesthood " was first in thought, and that the " American " Chapter organization was arranged upon that basis. These things harmonize also with the Order of High Priesthood as we received it more than thirty years ago, from Companions Wadsworth, Enos, Gilbert and others, who for sixty years did not fail



attending the Annual Convocations of this (New York) Grand Chapter. All of them were among the early members of this Grand Chapter, but have gone to their final rest. Another yet remains, Excellent Companion Ezra S. Barnum, whom may God long preserve to grace our Annual Convocations with the wisdom of his years. We have other reasons for the faith that is in us, but this is not the place to state them.

Pennsylvania receives fraternal notice. Speaking of the action of our Grand High Priest with regard to the candidates made by the King of Chapter No. 215 in an irregular manner, he says :

It appears to your Committee, that the degrees having been conferred irregularly, the candidates should have been regularly healed, and not left at option to go elsewhere, *or go without* anything further.

We think the healing process should only be resorted to under the most pressing emergency. And we think that the Chapter should be fully protected, which can only be done by treating such gross irregularity as it deserves, by topping off the fruit borne by its action.

In his concluding remarks, he submits the following on Uniformity, which we personally like :

Uniformity of ritual is still a subject of remark. What makes a man a Mason? It would not be very difficult to obtain absolute uniformity in regard to that question. The ceremonies are illustrations, which may be, and are exhibited with more or less formality without injury to the vital points. The uniformity of laws, rules and regulations throughout the several Grand jurisdictions, appears to your Committee to be of as much, if not more importance, to the well being of the Fraternity, than a *verbatim* uniformity of ritual.

On the question of fees on joining a Chapter by dimit, we fully agree with :

A man once a member of the Masonic fraternity is through life a member, unless such membership is forfeited by wilful neglect of Masonic duties, or unmasonic conduct whereof he is duly convicted. With these views, we hold that a brother or Companion removing from one jurisdiction to another, having paid his dues and taken his dimit in good standing, ought not when seeking admission to membership in his new residence, to be charged with adjoining fees beyond the Grand Lodge or Grand Chapter registry fees, to preserve his identity. He paid for his membership when initiated, and ought not to be chargeable a second time for it. We think all such charges are a violation of equitable Masonic principles.

Most Excellent Companion REES G. WILLIAMS, *Grand High Priest*.

Most Excellent Companion CHRISTOPHER G. FOX, *Grand Secretary*.

### NORTH CAROLINA.

The Twenty-fourth Annual Convocation was held in the city of Wilmington, June 3, 1872, Most Excellent Grand High Priest Companion JOHN NICHOLS presiding. Twelve Chapters represented.

The Grand High Priest delivered an able address, from which we clip the following on the subject of teaching the work, and we think if diligently and intelligently followed out, you would not require the services of a Grand Lecturer :

Owing to the small number of subordinate Chapters within this Grand jurisdiction, their distance from each other—some of them far from the lines of our railroads—and the small membership of most of them, it will be difficult, if not impossible, to secure the services of a competent Lecturer, who will be willing to devote himself to the work for the compensation which Chapters may be able to pay. With this impediment in the way of a proper and thorough dissemination of the work, I respectfully submit to the Grand Chapter, if it would not be well to adopt some more practicable plan than that now provided for? If the Grand Chapter would set apart one day during each Annual Convocation, for the purpose of exemplifying and considering the work, much good might be done, even if the desired object was not fully accomplished. This should be done early in the session, when there is the fullest representation present, and before the Companions become weary and anxious to return to their homes; and it should be enacted, that during the exemplification and consideration of the work, no other business shall be transacted or considered.

No Report on Foreign Correspondence.

Most Excellent Companion JOHN NICHOLS, *Grand High Priest*.

Most Excellent Companion THOMAS B. CARR, *Grand Secretary*.

### NOVA SCOTIA.

An Emergent Convocation of the Grand Chapter was held at Halifax, April 4, 1871, for the purpose of offering amendments to the Constitution of the Grand Chapter.



A Second Emergent Convocation was held at Halifax, April 11, 1871, for the purpose of considering the amendment offered at the First Convocation.

The Second Annual Convocation was held June 6, 1871, Most Excellent Companion S. R. SIRCOM acting Grand High Priest. Three Chapters represented.

The Acting Grand High Priest stated that the Grand High Priest, the Hon. Alexander Keith, was at that time in the United States, undergoing an operation for the recovery of his eyesight.

It is to be hoped that it resulted favorably.

The following we extract from the address of the Most Excellent Grand King, and as it is generally explanatory, we insert it entire :

During the past year, we have had the most satisfactory assurances of the good will and brotherly friendship of the Companions on this continent. The establishment of the Grand Chapter of Nova Scotia has almost universally received the unqualified approval, the warmest sympathy, and the most fraternal consideration from the Grand Chapter of England and those in America. In no single instance, on this continent, has the legality of our formation been questioned, and only one Grand Chapter (the Grand Chapter of Tennessee), so far as we have heard from, have delayed extending to us the right hand of fellowship, in consequence, as they state, of the action taken by the Grand Chapter of Scotland, (as set forth in their circular bearing date November 4, 1869.) Although the Grand Chapter of Tennessee have not formally recognized us, still they have exchanged reports with us, and have also entered our Grand High Priest and Grand Secretary's names amongst their list of correspondents.

The issuing of this circular (which was published in our last year's proceedings) was in consequence of a letter addressed to the Grand Chapter of Scotland, by an individual member of St. Andrew's Chapter, No. 2, R. N. S., without any authority whatever, setting forth: "that the members of that Chapter (St. Andrew's) were by no means unanimous in their wish to form a Grand Chapter." I think there is little doubt that the design of the writer must have been to place this Grand Chapter in a false position, and prevent our recognition.

On receipt of this circular, a special Convocation was called December 28, 1869, for the purpose of taking the same into consideration. The minutes of the subordinate Chapters were carefully examined, together with those relating to the formation of the Grand Chapter, and it was then ascertained that not a dissenting vote was cast, in any instance, against the movement, but on the contrary, all the minutes proved the fact that complete unanimity prevailed. The following resolutions were then unanimously adopted :

*Resolved*, That this Grand Chapter express its unqualified disapprobation of the conduct of the Companion of St. Andrew's Chapter, No. 2, (as yet unknown to them,) who has presumed to make a statement to the Grand Chapter of Scotland so utterly at variance with the truth.

*Resolved, further*, That the Grand Chapter of Scotland be respectfully requested to furnish this Grand Chapter with a copy of the communication of the member of St. Andrew's Chapter, No. 2, with the name of the writer referred to in the circular of the Committee of the Grand Chapter of Scotland ; and

*Resolved, further*, That this Grand Chapter consider that portion of the circular of the Committee of the Grand Chapter of Scotland impugning the veracity of the Grand High Priest of this Grand Chapter, as highly reprehensible and uncalled for.

*“Resolved, also*, That a copy of this resolution, together with an extract from the minutes of St. Andrew's Chapter, No. 2, Registry of Nova Scotia, be sent to the Grand Chapter of Scotland.”

The Report on Foreign Correspondence was presented by Companion J. Conway Brown, and embraces a review of the proceedings of twenty-six Grand Chapters, Pennsylvania not among the number.

Reviewing the District of Columbia, he says :

The world, however, moves. See how Drummond “moved” Pennsylvania last year. Perhaps the Boston cargo of tea, and the trivial matter, which you state called from the writer a retort “sharp and pointed, with a sting in the tail,” may, symbolically, have some allusion to that state of political perfection which Companion Mason implies can be consummated only when bursting from the bonds which now fetter us, we rise to join our colonists gone before and be united with them forever in a glorious galaxy of stripes and stars.

The first part of the above we do not exactly comprehend. We were certainly on the spot, and did not know of any particular move that Drummond gave us, and suppose Companion Drummond will be as much surprised as we are to find that he moved us and we not know it.

The following is from his report on Maryland, and his allusion to Pennsylvania again in so equivocal a manner leads to the supposition that he unfortunately was airing his wit, cheap though it is, at our expense. We trust the day may come when our Companions may feel their dignity to be worth more than the results of such experiments.

We fail to see any objectionable allusions to politics in Most Excellent Companion Harrington's address. If Companion Emmons



would only visit a Canadian, Nova Scotian, English, or even a Pennsylvania Chapter, he would no longer make this mistake. He would see two emblems not used in his own Chapters, and would learn that the sword and trowel are adopted to commemorate the valor of those worthy masons who carried on the building of the second temple with the trowel in their hand and the sword by their side, that they might ever be ready to defend the Holy City and Sanctuary against all unprovoked attacks of their enemies, whereby they have left a sacred and impressive lesson to succeeding ages that, next to obedience due to lawful authority, a manly and determined resistance against lawless violence is the first of social duties.

The following is from the conclusion of his report :

When our last year's report was submitted in advance to some of the prominent members of the Craft, a few of them (than in whose breasts no larger Masonic hearts beat) expressed doubts as to the policy of speaking so plainly on certain topics. As a satisfaction to those Companions that we did not exceed the license granted to the Fighting Brigade, we quote, where otherwise a simple acknowledgment would have been made.

We turn over one page and find the following announcement :

*John Conway Brown is dead.*

Companion STEPHEN K. SIRCOM, *Grand High Priest.*

Companion JAMES GOSSIP, *Grand Secretary.*

## OHIO.

The Fifty-fifth Annual Convocation was held at Sandusky, September 26, 1871, Most Excellent Grand High Priest Companion CHARLES C. KIEFER presiding. Seventy-five Chapters represented.

The Grand High Priest delivered an address, referring to the death of many members of that Grand Chapter. In touching language, he gives a full history of his official acts.

The following resolution was offered, and referred to the Committee on Masonic Jurisprudence :

*Resolved*, That in the opinion of this Grand Chapter, a Master Mason who has become maimed in person, is not thereby prevented from receiving the degrees conferred in a Royal Arch Chapter.

That Committee reported the following resolution, which was adopted, and we think properly so :

The Committee on Jurisprudence, to whom was referred the resolution in regard to the conferring of the Chapter degrees on maimed candidates, have had the same under consideration, and submit the following amended resolution, and recommend its adoption :

*Resolved*, That in the opinion of this Grand Chapter, a Master Mason who has become maimed in person, is not thereby absolutely physically disqualified for receiving the degrees conferred in a Royal Arch Chapter, but the degree of injury or maiming that shall constitute physical disqualification for the receiving of degrees shall be left, as the moral and other necessary qualifications are, with the several subordinate Chapters.

The Report on Foreign Correspondence was presented by Companion J. Kelly O'Neal, and reviews the proceedings of twenty-two Grand Chapters, Pennsylvania for 1870 included.

Companion CHARLES C. KEIFER, *Grand High Priest*.

Companion JAMES NESBITT, *Grand Secretary*.

## OREGON.

The Eleventh Annual Convocation was held in the town of Salem, June 16, 1871, Most Excellent Grand High Priest Companion JAMES R. BAYLEY presiding. Four Chapters represented.

The Grand High Priest delivered an address, from which we extract the following concerning dispensations :

I also granted a dispensation to Ferguson Chapter, No. 5, on June 1, to ballot on the petitions of Brothers Asher, Marks and A. H. Spear, without waiting the constitutional time, one of them living in Roseburg and the other in Cottage Grove, they being desirous of receiving the degrees while they were in attendance at the Grand Lodge, or on their return home at Corvallis, they living so far from the Chapter that they could not come expressly for the purpose of receiving the degrees; Brother Marks being Master of Laurel Lodge, and Brother Spear Master of Cottage Grove Lodge. In granting said dispensation, I felt sure that there were no mercenary motives prompting them to ask for the same, but that they were the kind of material to build the Masonic Temple with.

We do not approve of granting forthwith dispensations in any case, or under any circumstances. We believe that every requirement of the law should be strictly adhered to by the Chapters and Lodges on the admission of a candidate; for, when once in, we should be careful to sustain, cheer and defend him in every way in our power. Now



these forthwith applicants have the same rights and privileges when approved as any one else, without having to submit to the ordeal (too slight in most cases, we are sorry to say) that is fairly considered necessary by Masonic law and usage. We think the tendency of all such cases is to weaken our institution, in that it encourages a looseness which is subversive of every principle of Freemasonry. We would also say that in the above case it seems to have been a mere matter of convenience, which we hope the Grand High Priest will not have cause to regret.

The Report on Foreign Correspondence was presented by Companion T. McF. Patton, and embraces a review of the proceedings of thirty-three Grand Chapters.

Reviewing Georgia, he quotes and comments as follows :

“So it seems that Royal Arch Masonry has at length assumed to itself *public* as well as *private* Grand Honors. The question naturally arises—what are they? When were they made public? How many of the public witnessed them on the occasion reported?”

There is evidently some mistake in this. It cannot be possible that in a jurisdiction claiming to be “*the first nursery of Masonry on this continent*,” there is any one that doubts that such things exist. We thought we lived in the backwoods—in the mountains—but here we find a prominent Companion, living in the heart of civilization, with convenient facilities for visiting, and acquiring a knowledge of matters and things by observation, asking, “*What are they?*” We feel flattered indeed to know that we are ahead of Georgia in one thing at least.

We would join Georgia in the question, “*What are they?*” and as we hope never to see them in this section of country publicly exemplified, we should be glad of a description, so that we may know them if we ever see them.

In his review of New York, on the subject of the anointing of High Priests of Chapters before they can install their officers, he says :

We think the ruling of the Committee good, so far as New York is concerned—that is their law. But with us, our High Priests are anxiously awaiting the time when they shall be anointed for *past services*. None in this jurisdiction have ever received the Order of Priesthood ; at least, to our knowledge. If they have, it has been concealed from our knowledge and observation.

We agree with him, and think where the installation and anointing of High Priests can be done, it is, well it should be ; but to say

that after he has been elected and taken his place as High Priest of a Chapter, that he is not competent to install his officers, we think is putting too fine a point upon the whole subject.

We have looked in vain for a notice of Pennsylvania. We thought at first we were in, but find that Companion Patton has forgotten us in the hurry of business.

Companion JAMES R. BAYLEY, (re-elected,) *Grand High Priest*.

Companion R. P. EARHART, *Grand Secretary*.

### 1872.

The Annual Convocation was held June 24, 1872. Five Chapters represented.

The Grand High Priest delivered a very brief address.

The Report on Foreign Correspondence is again by Companion T. McF. Patton, and embraces a review of thirty-one Grand Chapters, including Pennsylvania for 1871.

Reviewing Pennsylvania, he says :

This Grand Chapter differs essentially in their mode of procedure from any other Grand Body we have examined. They have a peculiar way of their own. For instance: After receiving an invitation to send delegates to the General Grand Chapter, they *whereas*-ed and *resolved*, that, as they could see no advantage to be derived from accepting the invitation, they would most respectfully and fraternally decline.

Well, Companion Patton, is it a sin to politely decline an invitation that you do not wish to accept? or, do *you* not think the General Grand Chapter was worthy so much consideration?

The following seems to please Companion Patton, for, in speaking of Pennsylvania, he says :

Among the appointments of subordinate officers for the Masonic year, we notice *thirteen Grand Chaplains*. We suppose the distribution to be about as follows: Two to each elective Grand Officer, and one to every four appointed officers. Their appointment must be more for ornament than use, as we find no record evidence that any of the number were called into service at either the Quarterly or Annual Convocations. They are good things to have on hand in case of emergency.

You may rest assured, my dear Companion, that our Chaplains



do make themselves useful, at least they will not waste their power on such small matters as the above notice.

Companion JAMES R. BAYLEY, *Grand High Priest*.

Companion R. P. EARHART, *Grand Secretary*.

## RHODE ISLAND.

The Seventy-third Annual Convocation was held in the city of Providence, March 14, 1871, Most Excellent Grand High Priest Companion THOMAS A. DOYLE presiding. Nine Chapters represented.

The Grand High Priest delivered an address, in which he reported dispensation for new charter, constitution of new Chapter, installations and visitations, by-laws approved, General Grand Chapter, financial condition.

The Committee appointed to report upon the expediency of representatives to other Grand Chapters, made the following report :

The Committee appointed to consider the subject of the interchange of representatives with other Grand Chapters, respectfully report that while approving the object sought to be gained through such representation, viz., the promotion of friendship between Companions and the closer union of Grand Bodies in the relations of sympathy and good-will, they are not prepared to recommend any system for the general representation of this Grand Chapter in other foreign bodies. Your Committee can well understand that in special cases and for particular purposes it might be well that there should be an interchange of representatives between the sister Grand Bodies, but they believe that these cases can best be met as they arise, and that the establishment of a general rule providing for the appointment of such representatives would be open to very serious objections.

The following sensible resolutions were passed :

*Ordered*, That the bill for the dinner furnished this day be paid when audited by the Grand High Priest.

*Ordered*, That the Grand Stewards be directed to provide a dinner at the next Annual Convocation.

The Report of the Committee on Foreign Correspondence was by Companion George H. Burnham, and reviews the proceedings of thirty-seven Grand Chapters, Pennsylvania for 1868 and 1869 included.

Reviewing Indiana on Substitution, he says :

Why not? Substitution is practiced in a majority of the States, and the propriety of it has nowhere been questioned so far as we are aware, until within a very few years. If we are rightly informed, in the bodies working Capitular Masonry under the authority of the Grand Chapter of Scotland, but two actual candidates are ever exalted, the group or class being completed by the Principal Sojourner. In this as well as in all the older jurisdictions, the practice has been sanctioned ever since Royal Arch Masonry was practiced.

Reviewing Maine, he says :

“ ‘ This Grand Body *considered* that the General Grand Chapter had ceased to exist.’ This reminds us of the old story of teacher and pupil : ‘ *Teacher*—John, how many legs has a calf if we *consider* his tail a leg? *John*—Four. *Teacher*—How do you make that out, you blockhead? *John*—’Cause *considering* his tail a leg don’t make it one.’ We think John had better go to Rhode Island.”

If John should come to Rhode Island, we might perhaps inquire of him what evidence of life he observed in the General Grand Chapter, and whether he *considered* that a body meeting but once in three years, and then doing no business except offering amendments to its own Constitution and electing its officers, without a single power over any of the Grand Chapters which it *considers* its subordinates, practically has any existence. “ John ” might also *consider*, after reading the proceedings of the General Grand Chapter, especially that portion thereof relating to the banquet, that a good appetite was the most important qualification for membership, and in that respect we are forced to admit the vigorous existence of the body. But we fail to see how eating and drinking and steamboating once in three years can be of any earthly advantage to the interests of Royal Arch Masonry in the United States. As a governing body the General Grand Chapter is a failure. Its Constitution says it has no powers except those delegated to it, and that it can have none which will interfere with the authority of the State Grand Chapters. We have no use for empty titles, or for bodies whose sole prerogative is that of conferring them ; such a body is the General Grand Chapter, and even Companion Drummond’s arguments cannot make it otherwise. He may *consider* it of use, but it will no more make it so than considering the tail of the calf a leg made the animal have five legs. Companion Drummond takes exception to the argument advanced by Grand High Priest Doyle, that the General Grand Chapter died by its failure to meet in 1862, and says the same thing has happened to the Grand Chapter of Maine as well as that of Rhode Island, and that either one of these bodies may be considered dead, as well as the General Grand Chapter. So they might have been, had any of the parties who framed the bodies aforesaid found it expedient to object to their re-establishment.



And so it is with the General Grand Chapter. When it failed to meet, it died ; by its death our obligations to it ceased, and we objects to its re-establishment. To that now in existence we owe no allegiance, and no Royal Arch Mason in this State since the demise of the dear departed, has been obligated to pay allegiance to its ashes, or its administrators. Embodied in the report is a carefully prepared table of statistics of Royal Arch Masonry in the United States. The number of Chapters is 1,729 ; members, 96,375 ; exaltations, 10,433 ; deaths, 930 ; rejections, 290. Sixty Chapters fail to make returns ; seven of these are in Massachusetts. But then as Massachusetts is a wild country totally devoid of means of communication from place to place, it is not to be expected that the returns would all be in in time. Let us hope that next year they will all be heard from. The representative system was recognized by the Grand Chapter of Maine. There are in the jurisdiction thirty-three Chapters, including one U. D. ; members, 2,790 ; 318 exaltations.

Pennsylvania receives fraternal notice.

Companion HENRY C. FIELD, *Grand High Priest*.

Companion GEORGE H. BURNHAM, *Grand Secretary*.

## SOUTH CAROLINA.

The Annual Convocation was held in the city of Charleston, February 14, 1871, Most Excellent Grand High Priest Companion JAMES A. HOYT presiding. Twenty Chapters represented.

The Grand High Priest delivered an address, from which we extract the following beautiful and encouraging report of the condition of our Order and our country :

Another year, with its many changes, lies garnered with the past, and under the sanction of Divine Providence the portals of our tabernacle are again thrown open to welcome the votaries who worship at the shrine of Friendship, Morality and Brotherly Love.

Everything around us speaks of happiness and joy—abundant crops and rich teeming harvests have crowned the labors of the husbandman, and the white and spreading sails of commerce bear the burden with which they are richly freighted to all points of the world, and assures the hope, that at least in our beloved land, the clarion of discord has sounded its last discordant note, and that happiness and plenty crown, and are the meet reward of the faithful and the just.

The blood-red blossoms of war have given way to the pure lilies

of eternal peace, and the star of hope now resplendently shines, giving promise of the security and enjoyment of all of our rights.

For these mercies it is incumbent upon us, specially, to serve God—to acknowledge *His* mercy and goodness, and with love and gratitude to offer our unfeigned and sincere thanks to His Throne of Eternal Grace, so that the copious and overflowing fount of our thankfulness may be poured out in praise and thanksgiving for such signal favors.

I am pleased to communicate that the condition of our jurisdiction is most flattering and prosperous, and that the utmost harmony prevails. The only contention is the noble rivalry in bringing our Chapters up to that standard which shall best secure happy results for the benefit of the Order. This is the feeling which animated our country Chapters, and I have no doubt those of our metropolis work with a like incentive.

The following on Non-affiliated Masons we also quote :

It is a matter of the most serious import, and one of great moral delinquency, and the concealment within the breast of the offender, ought to be punished with Masonic condemnation. The high and responsible position which I occupy, together with the feeling which predominates above all other considerations, and which prompts me to act for the well being and perpetuity of our Order, compel me to be plain and unmistakable in my language when I say that I consider it as an imposition on the part of any Mason to intrude himself upon, and become a Companion of a Chapter, without first affiliating with a “Blue Lodge.”

It has been brought to my notice that a brother has been exalted to one of the highest positions in a subordinate Chapter, keeping concealed, and not bringing to the knowledge of said Chapter that he was not in affiliation with a “Blue Lodge.” My ruling was, and is, that a prerequisite condition for Companionship in a Chapter is affiliation with a “Blue Lodge.” I particularly enjoin upon the officers and Companions of subordinate Chapters, that with an eye jealous to the interests of our Order, and under the responsibility of the sacred and solemn obligation they have taken, they bring this matter to their serious attention and thus guard against any future violation.

The Report on Foreign Correspondence was presented by Companion James Birnie, and embraces a review of thirty-one Grand Chapters.

The following from his review of Alabama, is in our judgment a novel way of settling the troubles of that jurisdiction :

Alabama does not owe allegiance to this body, *i. e.*, the General Grand Chapter, and the consequence has been that the Grand High



Priest has been openly insulted in a subordinate Chapter under his own jurisdiction. Mobile Chapter, No. 21, had failed to conform to the prescribed work, and when the Grand High Priest visited it for the purpose of correcting the work, the officers refused to adopt it, telling him at the same time that it was not his duty to teach it. It is humiliating to read of such conduct. The charter of that Chapter should have been taken away instantly, and it taught a lesson of obedience and submission. We are glad to see that Companion Brown recommends returning to the protecting folds of the General Grand Chapter. We can ensure her a warm welcome.

If that is the remedy for such a glaring outrage, we should advise Alabama to hasten into the fold. We would suggest, however, that it would be as well to put some backbone into the Grand High Priest, to whom the insult was given, as soon as it could be possible.

The following is from his review of the District of Columbia :

The Report on Foreign Correspondence is signed "John Edwin Mason, Chairman." As he has made a most foul and unprovoked attack on a distinguished Past Grand High Priest of this jurisdiction, we pass him by without further comment.

The following is from his review of Pennsylvania :

Companion S. C. Perkins, the Chairman of the Committee on Correspondence, was prevented by absence and other causes, from making a report, and Companion Charles E. Meyer was substituted in his place. The report is an excellent one, very full ; gives all useful information, with very sensible and pertinent remarks. The proceedings of thirty-four Grand Chapters are noticed, those of South Carolina, from 1862 to 1869, among the rest.

Companion JAMES A. HOYT, *Grand High Priest*.

Companion AUGUSTINE T. SMYTHE, *Grand Secretary*.

## TENNESSEE.

The Annual Convocation was held in the city of Nashville, November 8, 1871, Most Excellent Grand High Priest Companion WILLIAM H. ARMSTRONG presiding. Seventy-four Chapters represented.

The Grand High Priest delivered an excellent address.

The following decisions were reported by him :

"Can a Chapter U. D. exercise discipline?" instancing the case of the P. S. of his Chapter, who was guilty of "gross unmasonic con-

duct." He had been in the community about three years, having a dimit from a Chapter in England. He represented himself as a single man, while he had a wife in New York. He had stolen from a Companion Royal Arch Mason, and then absconded to parts unknown.

I answered that a Chapter U. D. had the right to discipline its members, and in this instance I thought it ought to be done.

It has been asked, "Is it necessary for an actual Past Master to take the Past Master's degree in the Chapter prior to exaltation?"

I answered "yes."

The degrees are not the same, and it is necessary that they should be kept distinct from each other in the Lodge and Chapter. I have known Lodges of virtual Past Masters to confer the degree on actual Past Masters as a qualification to preside, which is all wrong, and it is time that Royal Arch Masons everywhere should so understand it.

If there is any difference in the two degrees, what is it, and which is the right one—*Query*.

Upon Uniformity of Work, he reports as follows:

Uniformity of work is not yet an accomplished fact. Something has been done in this direction, but much remains to be done. Some of the Companions in the State seem to think that your action in 1869, adopting a uniformity of work, left it optionary with them to receive or reject that work. Some even question your authority for such an action. These Companions have not yet reached that point in the knowledge of Capitular Masonry where wisdom begins. Those who entertain this opinion, (few in number, I am glad to say,) as a general thing, I have found to be those who know the least about the rituals, history, laws and customs of Masonry. Ignorance is inexcusable in this age of Light, and to obtain more light should be the object of every Mason.

We find self-opinioned, ignorant men everywhere, in Church, in State, and in Masonry, exhibiting the same characteristics. They oppose every object that calls for a united effort. They are willing to see the beautiful ceremonies of our noble Craft made ridiculous, if by that means a few more ignorant than themselves may consider *them* wise. They oppose the publication of Masonic books, periodicals, newspaper articles, or anything that would throw a ray of light, and if in your counsels their advice is not followed, they become greatly incensed.

Upon Morality, he speaks as follows:

In most places I have found the standard of morals high; in others too much neglected. I have no desire, neither would it be



possible, to make of ours a denominational or temperance organization ; still, as it is founded on the principles of virtue, and as the law which is to govern every Mason is the Great Light, contained in the Holy Bible, we cannot insist too strongly upon moral qualifications. Among those who are taught never to use the name of Deity but with that reverence which is due from the creature to the Creator, the profane swearer, the drunkard, the libertine, and the dram-seller have no place ; and how much worse is it when such men are placed in official positions, and held up as examples and models. These are those who draw on us reproach and condemnation. Those who are guilty of such practices should be healed, or we should remove them fearlessly and without partiality. Companions, will you see to this when you return to your subordinate jurisdictions ?

The Report on Foreign Correspondence was presented by Companion George S. Blackie, and embraces a review of forty-two Grand Chapters, including England and Wales, Scotland and Ireland, and the General Grand Chapter.

Pennsylvania receives fraternal notice at his hands. He says :

Companion George Griscom submitted a long and valuable Report on Foreign Correspondence, embracing the abstracts of thirty-four Grand Chapters, reviewed in an unprejudiced and fraternal manner. The Grand High Priest then read his address, which shows that he had been more than ordinarily busy in his jurisdiction, and was well satisfied with the observations made by him in his numerous visitations. At every point he finds something worthy of notice, and he leaves the impression on the minds of his hearers that harmony and good taste, earnestness and devotion to Masonic principle rule the Craft in Pennsylvania.

In his review of Scotland and the Grand Mark Lodge of England, he inserts the following, which we copy entire for the benefit of our members :

#### MASONIC CONFERENCE.

A conference of delegates from the Grand Lodge of Scotland, the Grand Chapter of Scotland, the Grand Chapter of Ireland, and the Grand Lodge of Mark Master Masons of England, on the subject of the position of the Mark Degree in England, was held in the Freemasons' Hall, London, on the 3d of April, 1871. Brother Earl Percy, M. P., and Deputy Grand Master of England, was in the chair. Scotland was represented by Brothers Hay and Kerr, of the Grand Lodge, and Companions Mann, Mackersy, and Entwisle, of the Supreme Chapter, and the Grand Mark Lodge by Brothers Portal and Binckes. The Grand Lodge of Ireland was not at first represented, but afterwards Brother Burdett appeared, though not as

a delegate. Brother Binckes stated the object of the conference to be the bringing about an understanding with the Grand Bodies of Scotland and Ireland by which the Grand Mark Lodge should be recognized as the Conservator of the Mark Degree in England, but the Grand Master of England had declined to send any representative, on the plea that the Mark Degree is not recognized by the Grand Lodge or Chapter of England, and all he could do was to wish them well as Master Masons. The Grand Master of Ireland stated that in Ireland the Mark Degree is worked under the exclusive control of the Grand Chapter, and all the degrees in Ireland, from the First to the Thirty-third, work harmoniously together and in unison, and he could see no reason why the Mark Degree should not be worked as in Ireland, and thought the proper step to be taken was to get the Grand Lodge of England to recognize the governing bodies other than the Grand Chapter. He had asked Brother Burdett to be present, but not in any way to commit the Grand Chapter. Brother Mackersy, of Scotland, opened the debate. Some of his statements are of great interest. In England, the Royal Arch Degree follows immediately the Mark Master, but in Ireland, America, Canada and Scotland, the rite is very similar. As a consequence, when Companions of Ireland, Canada or America visit Scotland, they can be present during all the ceremonies, but English Companions must be excluded during a great part of them, disagreeable to the hospitable Scotch, but more so, we should think, to English. He deemed it of importance that, at least, the British Islands should have uniform work, and hoped this conference might lead to such a happy result. It seems that in the year 1856, a subordinate Chapter of Scotland, Bon-accord in Aberdeen, had taken of itself the right to grant a charter to a number of English brethren, who had been in Scotland and were much struck with the beauty of the Mark Degree, and that they had with this authority opened and worked a Mark Lodge in London. The natural result of this was, of course, the death of Bon-accord Chapter, and the suspension of its officers. But the mischief was done, and the Grand Chapter could not get back the illegal charter. It was worked under in England, and at last the Grand Chapter allowed itself to be led into the doubtful position of yielding to the entreaties of the English brethren and granting them a legal charter. In consequence of the first action, other warrants were granted in the territory, and this went on for a year or two, but then the English brethren started a Grand Mark Lodge of their own, and the Mark Degree came to have two growing heads in England. There seems some little mystery as to how this Grand Mark Lodge was formed, but Brother Mackersy called attention to a curious fragment of history in this connection. For a long time certain old operative Lodges in Scotland had been in the practice of working the Mark Degree, but in the speculative Lodges the degree had never been worked. So little was generally known of the existence of the Mark



as a Craft Degree, that in Glasgow an operative Lodge, in the year 1860, had conferred it under St. John's charter, and this coming to the knowledge of the Provincial Grand Lodge, was regarded as an irregularity, and the St. John's Lodge was suspended. They made a bold appeal to the Grand Lodge, admitting they had worked the degree, and said: "We have worked nothing more than we were entitled to do, as a part of Ancient Masonry, and have not introduced a new degree, because the Mark Degree is not a new degree; it is the completing part of the Second Degree." This came before the Grand Lodge, the Lodge produced all its evidence, and the result was that the Grand Lodge was compelled to admit that the Mark Degree as practiced by them, was, in point of fact, a part of the Fellow Craft Degree, and was not a separate degree at all. Thus it became apparent that two jurisdictions in Scotland claimed to superintend this degree, and it became necessary for an agreement to be made between the Grand Lodge and Grand Chapter on the subject. The result of this was that they stated that the Mark Degree was wrought by operative St. John's Masons before the establishment of the Grand Lodge of Scotland; that since then it had been almost entirely abandoned by the Lodges, and the Grand Chapter had assumed its management. But that now they enacted and declared that all Lodges holding of Scotland had the right to work the Mark under their present charters; but that to prevent confusion, this degree, although held by the Grand Lodge to be a second part of the Fellow Craft Degree, should only be conferred on Master Masons, and only in presence of those who had received the degree in a Lodge or Chapter; that the same ritual should be used in both bodies; that any candidate for the Royal Arch who was already a Mark Master of a St. John's Lodge, should not be required to take the degree again in the Chapter; that in the Chapter it should be reckoned as the fourth degree in Masonry, and that these rules should not interfere with the superintendence the Grand Chapter held over Mark Masonry out of Scotland, or with Lodges holding of it in England. This agreement made Grand Lodge and Grand Chapter one on the subject. When the Grand Mark Lodge was organized in England, the Scotch had no hostility to it, and indeed would have preferred to have the degree of Mark Master Mason recognized by the Grand Lodge and Chapter of England, in which event they would have withdrawn all their warrants. and ceased from granting more to Mark Lodges in that country. But until this was done, they would not take the initiative in recognizing the Mark Master's Grand Lodge. This was in 1864. The reply of the Grand Lodge of England, in 1865, was substantially that they recognized but four Masonic degrees, and did not acknowledge the Mark as pure Masonry, nor the pretensions of the body calling itself the Grand Mark Lodge, &c. The Grand Chapter of England said the same thing, *nominis mutandis*. In consequence, the Grand Chapter of Scotland declined to recognize the Grand Mark Master's Lodge.

The matter came up again in 1870, and was decided as we have told in our notice of the Grand Chapter of Scotland, in this report. He believed the proper course was to lay before the Grand Lodge and Chapter of England the reasons which induced the Grand Lodge of Scotland to admit that the Mark is a part and portion of the Fellow Craft Degree, and lay a report of all their proceedings before the Grand Lodge and Chapter of Ireland. If these Grand Bodies take the same view that was taken in Scotland, all difficulties is forever removed, because if this degree is taken up by St. John's Masonry, then the Grand Lodge and Chapter of Scotland will be in a position to make a proper arrangement. But should the Grand Bodies of England decide that they never would recognize the Mark Degree in all time coming, then he thought the day might not be far distant when Scotland and Ireland might recognize the Mark Grand Lodge. He wished first to try England, and if she recognized the Mark Degree, the work was done. If not, then Scotland was at liberty to co-operate with Ireland, and he thought there was no doubt what they would do. The discussion is then continued at great length. We cannot epitomize it all, but some points are of such interest that we are constrained to put them entire before the Companions of Tennessee. At one time in this discussion, Brother Kerr, the present historian of the Grand Lodge, says:

“It was stated that the Lodge of Glasgow, St. John, had conferred the Degree of Mark Master, as a section of the Second Degree, in a regular working Lodge. This was called in question and disposed of in the way which has been stated by Brother Mackersy, because it was in accordance with their ancient working, and the Supreme Chapter of Scotland arranged to have all the candidates for the Royal Arch Degree initiated as Mark Masters before they took that degree. Previous to coming to a decision on the subject, the Grand Lodge of Scotland appointed a Committee of Investigation, who conferred with the Lodge of St. John, which is No. 3 *bis* on the Roll of Grand Lodge. This Lodge holds a charter from Malcolm Canmore, against which some objections have been stated; but they have another from William the Lion, which is indisputable, dated 1174. They also state that as representing the ancient builders of Glasgow Cathedral, they only now practice the traditional Masonry received at that early period; and on consulting their oldest members, they found that the ritual which they were practicing in 1860, was stated to be exactly the same as those old men, seventy or eighty years ago, had practiced when young. This statement was confirmed by their books, which were brought forward. It was then shown from various sources that some of the old Lodges in Scotland had existed from a very early period—for example, the Lodge of Edinburgh, No. 1, Mary's Chapel—went so far back in her history as to say that the Lodge was originally brought to this country by David the First, and as a travelling Lodge erected the Chapel of Holyrood in 1128; also Melrose Abbey, and various other buildings, and came



back and settled in Edinburgh. They were a Lodge of operative Masons, and continued so until the last century. From this body rose the Incorporation of Masons. They had greater powers by their Charter of Incorporation than as a Lodge, none else being allowed to do Mason's work within Burgh. It was also found that in the Lodge of Edinburgh, Mary Chapel, the members signed the books with their marks. 'At a Conference or Grand Lodge held in Holyrood Palace, in 1598,' it was ordained: 'That no Master or Fellow Craft be received or admitted without the number of six Masters and two entered Apprentices, the Warden of that Lodge being one of the said six, and that the day of the receiving of the said Fellow Craft or Master be orderly buikit (booked), and his name and mark inserted in the same book.'

\* \* \* \* \*

"From the unwillingness of members of the old Lodges to commit any thing to writing it is difficult to find direct evidence. However, under date 1559, on the sill of one of the windows of the choir of Glasgow Cathedral we find the square and compass engraved: the All-seeing Eye above; the ladder with three steps; the sun, moon and stars; and a finger pointing to the three steps. In those times, when the secrets of the Craft were very much looked to and preserved with jealous care, you cannot expect very much explanation of the system then practiced; but you can see by those symbols that at that time Speculative Masonry did exist. There are also Lodges which state distinctly that they follow out those signs and symbols which had been transmitted to them from time immemorial. In the year 1707, a Lodge of Operative Masons, styled the Edinburgh Journeymen Masons, to which I belong, separated from the parent stock Mary's Chapel. They had a dispute about a Benevolent Fund, and the matter came before the Supreme Courts. By that proceeding we have it recorded that the Lodge made Entered Apprentices, and Fellow Crafts; but I believe no other Degree of Masonry except the Mark Master, who was Master of the Lodge. In the judgment which was given by the Supreme Courts, they not only gave power for this Lodge Journeymen to exist, but to give the Masonic word and receive dues therefor, but also to sue the Lodge St. Mary's Chapel for such further portion of Masonry which they were not then possessed of. Twenty years after, it is recorded that the Lodge Journeymen received the third degree from the parent Lodge.

"Brother Binckes: Then, you say the Overseer was the Chief Officer?

"Brother Kerr: Yes; because a large portion of the Lodges were Fellow Craft Lodges.

\* \* \* \* \*

"Brother Portal: On whom was the Master's Degree conferred?

"Brother Kerr: Upon men who designed and planned work

for those employed under them to execute. These were men of intelligence, who instructed others through symbolical teaching and otherwise. The subordinate Lodges were composed of workmen who were taught in the Lodges. Yet Masters may even be reduced from that position to a Fellow Craft. In the regulations referred to as having been adopted at the meeting in Holyrood Palace, in 1598, it is stated : ‘That all Masters undertaking work be very careful to see their scaffolds and footgangs securely set and placed, to the effect that through their negligence and sloth no hurt or injury come to any person employed at the work, under the pain of discharging them, thereafter to work as Masters having charge of work ; but shall ever be subject, all the rest of their days, to work under or with another principal Master having charge of the work.’

\*       \*       \*       \*       \*       \*       \*

“Brother Kerr: These rules of 1598 were promulgated during the time the head of the Rosslyn family was Hereditary Grand Master Mason. Copies of the rules were sent to the Lodge at Aitcheson’s Haven, and they are now preserved there. I need not show further that the Grand Lodge of Scotland investigated this subject very fully. The greatest difficulty arose in getting written evidence ; because from the strictness of the obligation even in the old minute-books, there is very little information concerning Masonry to be got. There is, indeed, little in them beyond the names of those who were present at the meetings, and the amount of money received. As to Marks being used at an early period, you have doubtless at the present day the traditional practice among Operative Masons of using them or implements, tools, chisels, and in many cases upon the stones they work. Some Operative Lodges took Apprentices bound to the Lodges up to about the year 1780, and these young lads while out with a Fellow Craft or Journeyman, working along with him, used a Mark, called a blind Mark, frequently placed in connection with the regular Mark of the Fellow Craft. There was also the Official Mark or equilateral triangle. In Rosslyn Chapel upon four ruined altars that were dedicated to the four Evangelists, every stone was marked with an equilateral triangle. So far we show their early use from ancient customs, and the existing Marks on buildings, and the continuation of the practice both by Operative Masons and existing Operative Lodges. In many of the old minute-books the name is not only signed, but the Mark is put behind it, in some places before. In the ritual practiced, even in the oldest forms you have of it, it is stated that the stones were hewn at a distance, marked and numbered ; but there is nothing whatever in the instruction now given that describes the manner of marking or anything else relating to it, but in the Mark Ritual the whole is fully described, and it is shown that each individual has a Mark, the Apprentice and Fellow Craft. Looking to the Lodge, you have the Junior Warden telling you that his duty



is to mark the time, in other words he takes account of the time. The Senior Warden tells you that he has to pay all the wages; he is paymaster. This has reference to something that must have been done, some work that has been performed. What are you to pay for? What amount are you to pay? Yet you are brought into a chamber to receive wages. You have an indication of something that is incomplete in the Second Degree. Whereas in the Mark Ritual you are told that the Overseer or Foreman must examine the work done. He then records the amount of work that has been sent forward to the building, properly marked, which he states opposite to the corresponding mark in his book. And when the workman comes forward to receive the wages, you have the treasurer called upon to pay the amount due as entered against those marks. I mention this to show that the reference made in the two first degrees is to something without which they are not complete, and that the section of the Fellow Craft Degree, now called the Mark Master Degree, supplies what is required. It is not a separate degree, but a superior or closing section of the Fellow Craft Degree. It is to be remembered that a foreman is a Fellow Craft. He may be a foreman to-day. The Master may say at the end of the day, I have no further employment for you in that capacity; but if you like to work for me as a Fellow Craft for two or three days, I will gladly give you work until you find employment as a Foreman or Overseer. In a Mark Lodge the office bearers are only Overseers, styled Junior, Senior, and Master Overseers—showing clearly that they are in charge for a superior authority. These Overseers not only directed the workmen, but gave an account of the time employed, and received plans and instructions from the Master, to be communicated to the workmen, whether relating to plain or more intricate portions of the work. Passing onward, we have the Third Degree in two parts. The first introductory, and the latter containing a Legend, where a reference is made to a superior order of Fellow Crafts who bore rule over the others, having conspired together. In the present course of instruction, there is only one order of Fellow Craft recognized. Yet reference is distinctly made to a superior order, which can only be reconciled by referring to the teaching given in the Mark Ritual. There is a very general idea, I am sorry to say, that the Third Degree is a very modern invention, while it is the best authenticated portion of the three degrees. It is simply an astronomical problem showing the state of the heavens at the time the foundation stone of the Temple of Solomon was laid. We have notes of it in Scotland. I recollect seeing it worked out upon two large terrestrial and celestial globes by an eminent astronomer. The globes were properly rectified, and the state of the heavens minutely noted. The signs and words of the degree were obtained, and the reason of the implements being used in the Legend of the Third Degree, also the name being thrice repeated—why the ear of corn and the waterfall are depicted,

and the directions in which the procession moves. It has proved itself to be one of the best authenticated of the three degrees. The astronomer asked whether I would mind leaving the notes with him. I did so, and he afterwards informed me that he went over the whole with a very learned professor, who expressed his opinion that it was evidently a very ancient system of some kind or other. He did not care whether it was Masonry or what it was; it appeared to be of undoubted antiquity.

“Brother Mackersy: Were these gentlemen Masons?”

“Brother Kerr: No: I may mention that what I have stated, as a short summary, occupied many long meetings of the Committee of Grand Lodge, when they were considering whether they should recognize the Mark Degree as a part of the Fellow Craft. They investigated the subject very fully. The then Deputy Grand Master, Brother Whyte Melville, also made inquiry, and found the marks to have been used in the older Lodges, as already stated. Afterwards the late Dr. Walker Arnott, who was very much opposed to Grand Lodge taking up the matter, made the same inquiry, and the evidence he collected was corroborative. He intimated to Grand Lodge that Mark Masonry must have been a portion of the old Masonic system. That body then directed their Committee with the Supreme Royal Arch Chapter to prepare a Ritual. The only difference being that the old Lodges speak of a square stone, and the Royal Arch of a keystone.”

These points of interest are all that we feel at liberty to extract, as our space is limited. We would recommend the reading of the whole debate to the Conference. On April 4, the Conference met again, Col. Burdett, of the Grand Chapter of Ireland, occupying the Chair. After a considerable amount of very interesting discussion, the following resolution was adopted:

“*Resolved*, 1. That the delegates report the proceedings of this Conference to their respective constituents.

“2. That in event of all, or either of, the sister Grand Lodges and Chapters considering it advisable to bring the proceedings of this Conference before the Grand Lodge and Grand Chapter of England, and of the latter Grand Bodies declining to recognize the Mark Degree, or, in event of its being considered unnecessary to approach the Grand Lodge and Grand Chapter of England, the Grand Lodges and Grand Chapters of Scotland and Ireland be recommended to recognize a governing body in England over the Mark Degree.”

This being disposed of, Brother Portal attempted to introduce the subject of other degrees, and asked “the representatives of the Grand Chapters of Ireland and Scotland if they would be prepared to concur with him in the creation of some body, either to be called ‘The Council of Excellent Masters,’ or any name that might be agreed upon, for working such Degrees as the Excellent, Most Excellent,



and Super-Excellent Master, and the Knights of the Sword, and of the East, and of the East and West, so that Royal Arch Masons leaving this country may be furnished with all those degrees under the Royal Arch system which the Royal Arch Chapter of England does not include."

Brother Mackersy, on behalf of the Grand Chapter of Scotland, sympathized with the remarks, but was not authorized to act in anything but in reference to the Mark Degree. After some few remarks the Conference closed in hearty friendship and good will. We expected to have heard more of this before present Convocation of the Grand Chapter. A private letter from Companion Mackersy that the question and the report from which we have quoted were brought before the Supreme Chapter on the 22d of June, and was remitted to Committee for the purpose of bringing up at the next Quarterly Convocation a full report on the subject embraced in the Conference. A number of questions as to the working of the Chapter Degrees in Tennessee and other portions of the United States, were submitted to us, to which we made a full reply. But we have heard nothing of the result of the September Convocation.

Companion A. J. WHEELER, *Grand High Priest*.

Companion JOHN FRIZZELL, *Grand Secretary*.

## TEXAS.

The Twenty-second Annual Convocation was held in the city of Houston, June 12, 1871, Most Excellent Grand High Priest Companion S. S. MUNGER presiding. Forty-four Chapters represented.

The Grand High Priest delivered his annual address. He made a number of decisions during the year, the following among the number, which we quote :

When a candidate has been elected to receive the Royal Arch and appendant degrees, and the period of six months has elapsed since his election, would it be necessary to spread the ballot again?

*Answer.* Our Grand Chapter has adopted no fixed rule upon this point. Our Grand Lodge has limited the period to twelve months. Having no law in point, I would decide that, there being no objection, it would be proper to confer the degrees upon the applicant.

Our custom is to allow six months time to elapse before the candidate loses the privilege of the first ballot.

The following is from the report of the Grand Visitor :

Athens, No. 55. I have visited this Chapter two years successively without being able to get an audience. The last visit but two Companions came to the Chapter room. So far as I could learn, the Royal Craft is not in a healthy condition. There are some evils that ought to be removed. The records disclose one extraordinary proceeding. At a Convocation in the day the Chapter was called to refreshment until night, but failed to meet again at the time, and the Chapter stood open at refreshment for a month. At the next Convocation, the Chapter, already open, was again opened, and being doubly open, proceeded to pass a resolution declaring the opening one month previous thereby closed, leaving the opening of that day still open, and proceeded to labor.

No report on Correspondence.

Companion J. B. JONES, *Grand High Priest*.

Companion ROBERT BREWSTER, *Grand Secretary*.

## VERMONT.

The Annual Grand Convocation was held in the city of Burlington, June 14, 1872, Most Excellent Grand High Priest Companion EDWARD A. JEWITT presiding. Twenty-four Chapters represented.

The Grand High Priest delivered an address.

It seems from the address that our Companions are troubled with some outside fellows conferring degrees to interfere somewhat with their Chapter.

I cannot let this occasion pass, Companions, without entering my *solemn protest* against the action of certain persons calling themselves Masons, who for several months past have been about disseminating what they are pleased to call Masonic Degrees, under the name of the "Ancient Primitive Rite of Memphis of Thirty-three Degrees."

Over a year ago, one B. S. Hill, and later, one Harry J. Seymour (an expelled member of the Scottish Rite), the latter claiming authority from the Grand Orient of France to do so, went about the State, and for a consideration conferred these degrees and established Chapters, Councils, &c., of the Rite.

Their aim seems to be to get control of the Grand Bodies, and to this end they have offered to confer their degrees upon prominent Masons free of charge. And generally, when they could not get one price, they have taken another. Some of their followers have stated that their system would do away with the higher degrees of Masonry, and that their Chapter Degrees were to all intents and purposes the same as those of the York Rite; and many of them do not deny the fact.



Many of them, I am informed, are led to believe that the possessors of this *bogus* Thirty-third Degree would be recognized in England, France, and elsewhere, as regular Masons of that grade; whereas they would not be recognized or known, so far as those degrees are concerned, to be Masons at all.

It is certainly surprising to think that in this day of light and knowledge, Masons of good standing should allow themselves to be drawn into such institutions; but it would seem that they must be misled, and made to believe that at no distant day a union is to take place between the Ancient Accepted Scottish Rite and themselves, and that all will be then recognized as genuine Thirty-third Masons. That day will never arrive, and they will sooner or later (if they have not already) awake and find that they have been relieved of a little filthy lucre, and received several high sounding titles which amount to nothing.

If such men are allowed to go about peddling Rites and humbugs, spreading discord and dissensions, and thus imposing upon the Craft, ought we not, in no unmistakable terms, place the seal of our condemnation upon the institution.

Vermont has always been foremost in raising her voice against humbugs of any kind; let us, therefore, not hesitate—while showing charity to those who have unwittingly or thoughtlessly been led to countenance this movement—to mete out to its leaders our just and merited condemnation.

The following is a copy of a letter in relation to the Rite of Memphis, received by Companion J. H. Drummond, now General Grand High Priest, from the Grand Secretary of the Grand Orient of France, by which it will be seen that even the Grand Orient disowns and discountenances the acts of Harry J. Seymour, and his tool, B. S. Hill:

[Translation of Letter of Brother Thevenot.]

“T.·T.·G.·O.·T.·G.·A.·O.·T.·UNIVERSE.

GRAND ORIENT OF FRANCE,  
O.·OF PARIS, *Feb.* 24, 1870, (E.·V.·)

“VERY HONORABLE BROTHER:—Brother Poulle desires me to reply to a letter which you have addressed to him for the purpose of knowing if Brother Marconis in the character of Grand Hierophant of the Rite of Memphis has the right to create Masons of that Rite in America, and to confer there the Thirty-third Degree of the Scottish Rite, &c.; and inquiring if he does this with the knowledge and consent of the Grand Orient of France. I hasten to reply *not* so much to these different questions as to all which can arise in relation to the subject.

Behold, then, all the truth in relation to the Rite of Memphis and Brother Marconis. That Brother, at a certain time, decreed

himself chief of a new Rite—the Rite of Memphis—to which he gave ninety-six degrees! He travelled, propagated his Rite in different countries, and returned to France, where he made dupes in founding three Lodges. The police shut up these three Lodges. The members of these three Lodges were considered to be honest and well-meaning men.

They addressed themselves to the Grand Orient, which annexed to itself the Rite of Memphis, *without recognizing* its series of grades; it regularized the Memphis Masons, in recognizing them as Masons of the grade of Master, only. Brother Marconis divested himself of all rights in relation to this Rite, and transferred his powers to the Grand Orient of France, happy apparently to see that the Rite, which he had created, did not perish.

But we counted in vain upon his good faith and upon his oath. That Brother continued clandestinely to give the high grades to isolated Masons, addressing himself especially to strangers, and saying that his renunciation had effect only for France. Indigence impelled him into that bad faith. The Grand Orient wished to come to his aid: he replied that he was not poor. The Grand Orient had the right to proceed against him: it had pity upon an old man; it contented itself with warning its Lodges against his intrigues. The bulletin of the Grand Orient, which you receive, contains many resolutions upon that subject. See year 1866, pages 123, 146; year 1867, page 332; year 1868, pages 444, 467, 593. Finally, Brother Marconis died in 1869; we hope that he will have no successor, and that the Rite of Memphis will trouble us no longer. Already it *has entirely disappeared* from France. It is not maintained in Europe, save in some localities of Roumany, where it also tends to disappear, thanks to our incessant efforts.

These explanations, clear as well as concise, will give you the proof that it is not permitted to anybody in America, to invoke the name and authority of the Grand Orient of France in anything which concerns the Rite of Memphis. Nothing of what is done, or of any one who does it, in its name, concerning that Rite, is true. And I pronounce any one an imposter, who pretends to act in the name of the Grand Orient in the affairs of that Rite.

I hope, very dear and very honorable Brother, that these explanations will be of some use to you. In that hope, I pray you to accept the assurance of my most fraternal sentiments.

*The Chief of the Secretariat,*

THEVENOT.

To the HON. BROTHER DRUMMOND, Portland.' "

Companion EDWARD A. JEWETT, *Grand High Priest.*

Companion W. H. S. WHITCOMB, *Grand Secretary.*



## WEST VIRGINIA.

The proceedings at the formation of the Grand Royal Arch Chapter, show the presence of five of the nine Chapters to compose the Grand Chapter. The Grand Chapter was formed and the first Grand Convocation was held in Wheeling, November 16, 1871. The officers were installed by Most Excellent Companion JOHN P. LITTLE, Grand High Priest of Virginia, who delivered an address replete with good advice to the Companions, and which we hope will be heeded.

Companion THOMAS H. LOGAN, *Grand High Priest*.

Companion O. S. LONG, *Grand Secretary*.

## WISCONSIN.

The Twenty-first Annual Grand Convocation was held in the city of Milwaukee, January 17, 1871, Most Excellent Grand High Priest Companion THOMAS B. TYLER presiding.

The Grand High Priest delivered an address, brief but in good taste. The following we extract, as showing the necessity of care everywhere to keep the working of the ritual in due bounds, and the happy results attending the watchfulness of the Grand High Priest :

Evasions of the requirements of Section 6, of Article V, of the Constitution, respecting the examination of candidates for advancement, and the irregular manner of conferring the Fifth and Seventh Degrees by many of the Chapters, had been the occasion of much solicitude and apprehension. Variations from the true mode had crept in by degrees, until, like other evil habits, they had come to be regarded as parts of our system, and many were ready to defend them as sound and correct. With others, I believe them to be dangerous innovations, and if allowed to proceed without check, would in the end be destructive of the usefulness of our Order. I, therefore, instructed the Grand Lecturer to direct the attention of the officers and Companions of such Chapters as he should officially visit, to these subjects, and to insist upon strict conformity to the authorized ritual when conferring the several degrees, and upon implicit obedience to the Constitution, Rules and Regulations of this Grand Chapter, and of the General Grand Chapter of the United States upon all occasions, and under all circumstances.

It gives me great pleasure to be able to state that the Grand Lecturer, in the performance of that duty, informs me that the officers and Companions of the Chapters visited by him have generally

received these instructions with marked favor, and assured him of their prompt and cheerful compliance therewith. Let us hope, then, that the time has come when these degrees will be everywhere conferred in a legal and proper manner.

Let the fifth be stripped of its borrowed plumage, and made to perform the functions originally designed for it. Let the Holy Royal Arch be conferred with such dignity and decorum as will impress indelibly upon the minds of the candidates the fact that the ceremony is not a "solemn mockery," but an exemplification of a sublime truth, and designed to make men wiser and better, to give them larger and grander views of the great I AM, and of His wonderful works.

The Committee on Masonic Jurisprudence reported the following, which was adopted :

*Resolved*, That the use of keys or cyphers by any officer or member of any subordinate Chapter, and particularly all sales or barter thereof, is hereby strictly forbidden, under penalty of discipline for violation of Masonic obligations; and it is hereby made the imperative duty of the High Priest of every subordinate Chapter to secure, as soon as possible, and effectually destroy any such key or cypher.

We think the above was unnecessary, for if the Companions would do their duty there would be no necessity for the above, and if they have failed to do their duty, all the resolutions they can pass will not mend the matter.

The Report on Foreign Correspondence was presented by Companion Samuel Fellows, in which he reviews the proceedings of thirty-three Grand Chapters.

Pennsylvania is noticed in a fraternal manner, and in fact the whole report bears evidence of care and judgment, both in the selections and comments.

Companion C. F. G. COLLINS, *Grand High Priest*.

Companion WILLIAM T. PALMER, *Grand Secretary*.

## VIRGINIA.

The Annual Grand Convocation was held in the city of Richmond, December 13, 1871, Most Excellent Grand High Priest Companion JOHN P. LITTLE presiding. Thirty-two Chapters represented.



The Grand High Priest delivered an address, from which we extract the following :

The most interesting event that has occurred during my term of office has been the establishment of a Grand Chapter for West Virginia. Permission had been granted at our last Annual Convocation to organize such a Grand Chapter, and on November 16, 1871, delegates met in Wheeling, representing five out of the seven Chapters within the limits of that State, formed a Convention and elected officers for such a Grand Chapter. I was present by invitation, and, as Grand High Priest of Virginia, organized that Grand Chapter and installed its officers. From the zeal displayed and the spirit manifested by all the Companions, as well as from the high character of the worthy officers elected, I am well assured that this Grand Body will be an honor and a benefit to the cause of Royal Arch Masonry.

I recommend that, beside carrying out our intention of advising all Chapters within those State limits to connect themselves with this Grand Chapter of West Virginia, two other things be done :

*First*, That the Chapters now under dispensation in West Virginia be permitted, if the Companions of those Chapters desire it, to return their dispensations and receive charters from the Grand Chapter of West Virginia; and,

*Secondly*, That the dues for the past year of the several Chapters which have joined in this new organization be paid over to the Grand Chapter of West Virginia.

It will be but a proper act of courtesy extended to our young brother; and my reason for advising it is, that there were many expenses attending this new formation, and of course this beginning is made with an empty treasury.

The Chairman of the Committee on Foreign Correspondence made the following report, which was adopted :

He is again compelled, by force of circumstances, to throw himself on the indulgence of the Grand Chapter. His public duties and private engagements have been such constant and unceasing consumers of his time, by day and by night, as to prevent him from taking even a cursory glance over the proceedings with which he has been favored. As he advances in years, his engagements appear to increase *pari passu*, and he would respectfully request the Grand Council to relieve him, at least for the present, from further service in this branch of the Royal Art, from which he, personally, has derived so much instruction and pleasure, without, he fears, making a corresponding return either to this Grand Chapter or to his Companions of the "reportorial corps." In asking thus to be relieved, he would beg to say to his fellow members of the "Mutual Admiration Society," that he has lost none of his zeal in their cause.

While their criticisms have at times been severe, doubtless they were deserved ; and he begs to return to them, collectively and individually, his thanks for the kindnesses and courtesies he has received at their hands.

Companion ROBERT E. WITHERS, *Grand High Priest*.

Companion JOHN DOVE, *Grand Secretary*.

### GENERAL GRAND CHAPTER.

The Twenty-first Triennial Convocation was held at Baltimore, Maryland, September 19, 1871, Most Excellent General Grand High Priest Companion JAMES M. AUSTIN presiding. Twenty-nine Grand Chapters represented.

The General Grand High Priest delivered an address, which was both interesting and instructive. From it we extract the following :

And now, Companions, it appears to be my duty to call your attention to the well-known fact, that this meeting has been selected for the purpose of ending the existence of your honorable Body. The reasons given are, that it has not the power that ought to be exercised by a governing body ; and on the other hand, that the necessary powers cannot be given it, lest it exercise them to the detriment of the privileges of the several State Grand Chapters. I very respectfully submit that neither argument is good. If this General Grand Chapter has not the powers which it ought of right to have, the reason is that a majority of the representatives have not been willing to accord that power. What reason may have led to this determination is not for me to say ; but certain it is, that under the Constitution as we now read it, the State Grand Chapters have, by the acts of their own representatives, brought about the position we now occupy ; and it follows, that if this Grand Body ought to exercise other powers than those defined in its present Constitution, then it only remains for its constituents to signify that fact by a proper amendment of the Constitution. If, on the other hand, it be seriously held that this General Grand Chapter can not be trusted with such an enlargement of its powers as will enable it to govern the Royal Craft and maintain its present *status*, without detriment to the interests of the State Grand Bodies, then some other cause than a supposed disposition to do wrong ought to be advanced. Look over the history of the General Grand Chapter, and point out the instances when the Body has either been willing or has attempted to exercise any power not for the best interests of the whole Craft. Look among yourselves, and see who of you is



willing to tear down rather than to build up the "House of the Lord." Consider for a moment the fact, that this Body is made up of the immediate representatives of the State Grand Chapters, and ask yourselves whether one single man of you would willingly be recorded as doing any act capable of being construed as in opposition to the interests you are sent here to protect. There is certainly not one; and whether you resolve to withhold or to accord such powers as ought rightfully to belong to the National organization, no argument and no sophistry will relieve you of the responsibility of your own acts.

Consider again, Companions, that the system we practice is purely of American origin; that it does not prevail elsewhere on the surface of the globe, save in those isolated instances where authority has been derived from this General Grand Chapter, and you will see at once that if we hope to extend our views of Royal Arch Masonry, it can only be through the means of a body, representing not a single State or a few subordinate bodies, but the whole united power of this vast and only successful Republic in the history of mankind. If you wish your system of work to prevail throughout the vast spaces of earth where Royal Arch Masonry is yet unknown, you can only hope for it by the influence of a united National organization, which shall command a respect above that which could be hoped for as the result of the labors of an isolated State jurisdiction.

Companion JOSIAH H. DRUMMOND, *General Grand High Priest.*

Companion CHRISTOPHER G. FOX, *General Grand Secretary.*

## GRAND CHAPTER OF SCOTLAND.

We have received our first proceedings from the Grand Chapter of Scotland, being those for the years 1871 and 1872, and find carefully reported everything that was proposed in Grand Chapter. The only matter, however, particularly interesting to our Companions which we found, was the proposition adopted on March 6, 1872, to abolish the conferring by the subordinate Chapters of the Chair degrees or the Past Master, in this conforming to the practice in Pennsylvania. Companion Beach, a member of the Committee of Conference, held at London, by the Grand Chapters of Scotland and England, and the Grand Mark Lodge of England, made the following report on September 20, 1871:

There is considerable similarity in the working in Scotland and Ireland, America and Canada, and if certain points of want of similitude were conceded, the whole of the working might

be made almost identical or uniform. The English working seems to be the only working different to a general system prevailing through the rest of these countries. Hitherto Grand Lodge and Grand Chapter of England have laid down the abstract rule that no new Degree shall be considered or recognized, because at the time of the Union certain conditions were agreed to and insisted on. They have had no special reason since that time to reverse the decision at which they then arrived. They did so on one occasion with reference to the Mark Degree, but on the confirmation of the minutes, they repealed their own deliberate opinion. But if they were to be approached in a different manner, and told that though they might believe these degrees to be intrinsically of no importance as far as the integrity of Freemasonry goes, but that a general system of uniformity being arrived at, if they could be induced to join or to consent to a general system, the whole of the system of Freemasonry of these various countries might be made almost uniform; then I think a degree of influence would be brought to bear, to which hitherto they have been strangers. There would be two courses for them to adopt, the one would be to consent to recognize these degrees by themselves, and the other would be to give a tacit acknowledgment of them. They might be told that if they would not consent to work them themselves—which they might reasonably consent to do—they should give a consent to some organization which would take the position they themselves were not anxious to occupy. That seems to me a most desirable state of things to arrive at; and I, for myself, considering the number of Masons in England who are interested in promoting such a change, see no reason why it should not be promoted and arrived at.

In all other countries where the English language is spoken, except England, the Grand Lodges and Chapters are the recognized guardians of these degrees, and there seems no good reason why England should stand alone, when the only effect of her system is to exclude her members from Lodges in other countries.

The receipt of a copy of the Constitution of the Grand Chapter of Pennsylvania was acknowledged, and thanks were directed to be returned for the same.

The proceedings of the Grand Chapter of Scotland are characterized by care, thought, and an evident desire on the part of our prudent Scotch Companions to do right. We hope to hear from them again.

Companion THE EARL OF ROSSLYN, *First Grand Principal*.

Companion LINDSAY MACKERSY, W. S., *Grand Scribe E*.



## GRAND LODGE MARK MASTER MASONS OF ENGLAND AND WALES.

From the proceedings of the Half-yearly Communication, held December 5, 1871, we learn of the continued prosperity of this Grand Mark Lodge.

The following is the history of Mark Master Masonry in England, as prepared by order of the Grand Mark Lodge, and it is with pleasure we reproduce it for the benefit of our members :

There is probably no degree in Freemasonry that can lay claim to greater antiquity than those of Mark Man or Mark Mason, and Mark Master Mason.

A Committee of the Grand Royal Arch Chapter of Scotland appointed to examine into the position of the degree, reported, in 1865 :—"In this country from time immemorial, and long before the institution of the Grand Lodge of Scotland (in 1736), what is now known as the Mark Master's Degree, was wrought by the Operative Lodges of St. John's Masonry."

In A. D. 1598, William Schaw, Master of Works to King James VI., orders the *Marks* of all Masons to be inserted in their work.

In the seventeenth century, Mother Kilwinning Lodge made members choose their Marks and charged them *four shillings* each for the same.

On January 7, A. D. 1778, the Banff Operative Lodge resolved—"That in time coming, all members that shall hereafter raise to the degree of Mark Mason, shall pay one Merk Scots, but not to obtain the degree of Mark Mason before they are passed Fellow Craft; and those that shall take the degree of Mark Master Mason, shall pay one shilling and sixpence sterling unto the treasury for behoof of the Lodge. None to attain to the degree of Mark Master Mason until they are raised Master." This shows clearly the relative positions of the degrees of Mark Mason or Mark Man, and Mark Master Mason, to each other, and to the Operative Craft. Every Operative Mason or Fellow Craft, being obliged to be made a Mark Man or Mark Mason before he could "Mark" his work. While the degree of Mark Master Mason was confined to those who, as Masters of Lodges or Master Masons, had been chosen to rule over the Fellow Crafts.

Previous to the union of the two Grand Craft Lodges in England, effected in 1813, under the title of "The United Grand Lodge of England," the Mark Degree was regularly worked in many Lodges meeting under one or other of the two Constitutions, as well as under the authority of the Grand Lodge meeting from time immemorial at York. At the said union, in 1813, the Mark Degree

was excluded from the system then adopted. One of the articles of the Declaration agreed to at such meeting being—"Pure and Ancient Masonry consists of three degrees and no more, including the Holy Royal Arch."

The Mark Degree, however, continued to be extensively worked, especially in the northern and midland districts of England, the Lodges being held under immemorial constitution, derived from the Old Athol York Grand Lodge.

One or other of the Supreme Bodies exercising Masonic jurisdiction in Scotland, Ireland and America, has always regarded the Mark Degree as an essential and integral portion of ancient Freemasonry, while in Scotland it is conferred under the authority of both Grand Lodge and Grand Chapter.

In the United States, since the middle of the last century, the Mark Degree has been conferred in independent Mark Lodges, as well as under the authority of Grand Chapters of the Royal Arch.

In England, as has been shown, the knowledge and working of the degree has never been lost, but it has been practised from the earliest time in distinct and independent Mark Lodges, which have never acknowledged the jurisdiction of either the Craft Grand Lodges of 1717 or 1813, or of the Grand Royal Arch Chapter of 1813.

In the colonies much difficulty has been encountered from the establishment of Lodges under different jurisdictions, some recognizing the Mark Degree, and some altogether ignoring it. To remedy this state of confusion, an attempt was made in the year 1855 to obtain its recognition as a separate degree by "The United Grand Lodge of England," and a Committee, consisting of members of that Grand Lodge and of members of the Supreme Grand Royal Arch Chapter of England, was appointed to investigate and report upon the subject of the Mark Degree.

Some members of this Committee were already Mark Masters; those who had not taken the degree had it conferred upon them in the Albany Lodge, (time immemorial,) Isle of Wight, and in other old Lodges, and some in the Bon-accord Mark Lodge, then recently established in London, under a charter received from the Bon-accord Royal Arch Chapter of Aberdeen.

The report of the Committee approved by the Most Worshipful Grand Master pronouncing the Mark Degree as in their opinion "not positively essential, but a graceful appendage to the Degree of Fellow Craft," was presented to "The United Grand Lodge of England;" at the Quarterly Communication in March, 1856, and was unanimously adopted.

Owing, however, partly to the conscientious objections of some of the leading members of Grand Lodge, including the Most Worshipful Grand Master, who maintained that Grand Lodge was pledged by the articles of union only to acknowledge the three Craft Degrees as then worked by the Lodge of Reconciliation, (including



the Royal Arch,) and partly to the disapproval of many Mark Master Masons of the position, it was proposed to assign to the Mark Degree at the next ensuing Quarterly Communication of "The United Grand Lodge of England," on special motion, duly proposed and seconded, that portion of the minutes of the previous Quarterly Communication referring to the Mark Degree was non-confirmed, and the *status in quo ante* was resumed.

"The United Grand Lodge of England" having thus formally declared its inability in accordance with its Constitution, to adopt the degree into its system, a declaration which has since been repeated on various occasions, several earnest Masons, anxious for its propagation in place of having recourse to the old English Mark Lodges, applied for and received charters from the Supreme Grand Chapter of Scotland, under the authority of which they opened Lodges and conferred the degree of Mark Master in London and in other parts of England.

Other Mark Master Masons who had taken the degree in various old (time immemorial) English Lodges, together with the members of the Bon-accord Lodge, gladly welcoming the increasing appreciation of the Mark Degree, but not approving this attempt to introduce a foreign supreme Masonic authority into England, resolved to constitute a Grand Lodge with jurisdiction over the Mark Degree in this country, and its dependencies in the establishment of which they at once received the adhesion of the following (time immemorial) Lodges :

The Northumberland and Berwick, Newcastle-upon-Tyne.

" Royal Cumberland, Bath.

" Kent, London.

The Mark Degree was thus placed under an independent central authority, in accordance with the precedent already set with respect to the Royal Arch Degree, by the Grand Chapters of England and Scotland, as well as by the four London Lodges, in the establishment of a Grand Lodge in London in A. D. 1717, "The Grand Lodge of All England" then meeting at York.

The Right Honorable Lord Leigh, Provincial Grand Master of Warwickshire, [Craft,] a thoroughly constitutional Mason and a personal friend of the Most Worshipful Grand Master of England, was unanimously elected Grand Master of the new organization, and lent most valuable assistance in framing its laws and maturing its system of government.

The first meeting of the new Grand Lodge was held in June, 1856, when a desire for a general union of all the Mark Masters in England under one head was most warmly expressed. To give effect to this desire a meeting was convened on May 30, 1857, of representatives from all existing Mark Lodges in England wherever they could be found ; and at this meeting, which was largely attended, a Committee was appointed to concert measures for organizing a union of all regular Mark Master Masons. This Committee reported in

favor of a general union of all Mark Lodges upon equal terms in a Grand Mark Lodge.

Meanwhile, several of the Lodges holding charters from the Supreme Grand Chapter of Scotland became desirous of uniting under one Supreme Body in this country, considering it "derogatory to the national character to apply to a sister country for warrants of Constitution," and a circular was issued in September, 1858, by the masters of these advocating a union with the Grand Mark Lodge. Additions were thus continually made to the Lodges ranging themselves under the banner of the Grand Lodge, and Lord Leigh continued to be elected Grand Master till June, 1860, when he was succeeded by the Earl of Carnarvon.

Of old (time immemorial) Lodges now acknowledging the supremacy of this Grand Lodge, there are—

The Northumberland and Berwick, Newcastle-upon-Tyne.

" Royal Cumberland,	Bath.
" Kent,	London.
" Prince Edward,	Halifax, Yorkshire.
" Friendship,	Devonport.
" Minerva,	Hull.
" Benevolent,	Stockport.
" Portsmouth,	Portsmouth.
" Roberts,	Rochdale.
" Knights of Malta,	Hinckley.

Of the Lodges originally holding charters from Scotland there are—

The Bon-accord,	London.
" Thistle,	London.
" Cheltenham and Keystone,	Cheltenham.
" The West Lancashire,	Liverpool.
" Southwark,	London.
" St. Mark's,	London.
" Langley,	Cardiff.

The Grand Lodge of Mark Master Masons is now on terms of friendly reciprocity as regards the Mark Degree with the Grand Royal Arch Chapters of Ireland and Canada, and it is in alliance with the Supreme Grand Chapter, 33°, the Order of Knights Templar, and the Order of the Red Cross of Constantine.

Grand Masters from the date of Constitution of Grand Mark Lodge of England and Wales:

Right Hon. Lord Leigh,	. . .	1856.
Right Hon. the Earl of Carnarvon,	. . .	1860.
Viscount Holmesdale, <i>M. P.</i> ,	. . .	1863.
W. W. B. Beach, Esq., <i>M. P.</i> ,	. . .	1866.
Rev. George Raymond Portal, <i>M. P.</i> ,	. . .	1869.

Brother GEORGE RAYMOND PORTAL, *Most Worshipful Grand Mark Master Mason.*

Brother FREDERICK BINCKES, *Grand Secretary.*



## STATISTICS OF ROYAL ARCH MASONRY IN THE UNITED STATES AND CANADA, 1872.

FROM THE LATEST PROCEEDINGS.

	No. Subor'te Chapters.	Membership.	Exaltations.	Admitted or Restored.	Suspended.	Expelled.	Dimitted.	Deaths.	Rejection.
ALABAMA.....	51	1,919	108	68	74	1	8	33	8
ARKANSAS.....	61	1,561	168	46	43	1	58	23	...
CALIFORNIA.....	41	2,013	223	85	34	1	89	20	18
CANADA.....	44	1,814	352	69	11	1	79	21	...
CONNECTICUT.....	31	4,019	236	5	8	1	19	44	...
DELAWARE.....	4	227	55	...	5	7	2	4	...
DIST. OF COLUMBIA...	7	910	150	26	71	...	25	8	...
FLORIDA.....	13	368	17	4	5	...	11	9	...
GEORGIA.....	50	2,061	187	30	194	1	59	26	...
INDIANA.....	85	3,757	425	50	48	5	126	47	...
ILLINOIS.....	151	9,000	833	107	134	13	262	86	...
IOWA.....	65	2,772	383	45	56	3	108	18	...
KANSAS.....	20	650	66	34	...	3	21	9	14
KENTUCKY.....	106	3,469	357	47	53	5	152	51	27
LOUISIANA.....	29	1,576	118	26	63	4	60	35	5
MAINE.....	35	3,319	278	...	...	...	44	36	28
MARYLAND.....	11	1,100	188	8	9	2	12	10	5
MASSACHUSETTS.....	57	6,853	837	...	1	1	333	63	...
MICHIGAN.....	83	5,927	648	50	37	15	189	59	...
MINNESOTA.....	19	968	126	...	...	...	...	...	...
MISSISSIPPI.....	79	2,583	167	132	171	1	132	50	...
MISSOURI.....	74	3,406	462	79	8	5	112	27	44
NEBRASKA.....	6	359	65	11	8	1	12	2	...
NEW HAMPSHIRE....	17	1,804	126	...	...	...	...	...	...
NEW JERSEY.....	26	2,233	287	2	18	3	33	15	...
NEW YORK.....	184	17,017	1,855	150	434	7	307	178	186
NORTH CAROLINA...	14	608	13	13	8	1	7	8	1
NOVA SCOTIA.....	3	136	30	...	...	...	4	...	...
OHIO.....	124	7,060	786	172	206	20	266	77	...
OREGON.....	6	190	20	2	6	...	6	2	...
PENNSYLVANIA.....	86	8,409	909	188	133*	...	...	259†	32
RHODE ISLAND.....	10	1,381	177	2	...	...	28	7	32
SOUTH CAROLINA....	28	609	70	5	14	1	15	10	1
TENNESSEE.....	92	4,122	313	78	42	8	272	52	...
TEXAS.....	106	3,268	341	124	130	14	187	83	...
VERMONT.....	24	1,651	99	3	12	...	...	18	...
VIRGINIA.....	45	1,841	15	11	92	3	81	27	...
WEST VIRGINIA.....	5	252	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
WISCONSIN.....	40	2,466	182	38	49	2	124	24	28
Total.....	1,829	113,668	11,676	1,520	2,177	129	2,983	1,438	429

\* Expelled included.

† Dimitted included.

## CONCLUSION:

We have now finished our task, and sincerely trust the result of our labors may be accepted in the same spirit that dictated them. We find many very interesting points of Masonic law, custom and usage discussed, and very generally in a kind, fraternal spirit. The full exchange of proceedings has a tendency, in our judgment, to unite us into "one common band of brothers," which unquestionably will lead to good results, both present and future. The subjects introduced into the various Grand Chapters with which we are in correspondence are of course varied, as the jurisdictions are extensive. A perusal, however, of the different reviews as reported is as fascinating to the Masonic student as any subject he can find. It is unfortunate that many, very many, of our Companions fail to take sufficient interest in the published proceedings to read them carefully and intelligently for their own sakes. We certainly feel that it is impossible to fully understand the importance of Royal Arch Masonry without asking some knowledge of our neighbors.

In the discharge of our duty we have quoted largely from all the subjects that came under our notice, with a determination that we would give our Companions a chance to benefit themselves by presenting every thing of interest we could find, and we are sure we had a mass of wisdom to draw from in the reports we so carefully read. We are sorry that we could not spare more time upon the report, but do not intend to apologize, for we have done the best we could, and we are sure that will insure us the charity of *all* our friends.

On behalf of the Committee.

WILLIAM J. KELLY,  
*Chairman.*



## APPENDIX "G."

### Letter of Instructions to District Deputy Grand High Priests.

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#### COMPANION :

In appointing you to the office and rank of a District Deputy Grand High Priest, I do so with full confidence in your care, skill and ability to perform the duties which you will find fully set forth in the Constitution of the Grand Chapter, in the decisions of the Grand High Priests, my predecessors, and those of myself, to be found in the printed proceedings of the Grand Chapter ; a careful study of both is earnestly recommended to you.

You will bear in mind, that when clothed as a District Deputy Grand High Priest, you are the representative of the Grand High Priest, vested, however, only with the powers and prerogatives defined in the Constitution, Article VIII, Section 7, page 16.

You will carefully observe the following instructions :

1. You will visit each Chapter in your district at least once in the year, as soon after the receipt of your commission as possible ; and your expenses incurred in making said visit will be paid you on rendering an account of them.

2. You will be careful to instruct the High Priest and officers of the Chapters in the Ritual, as adopted by the Grand Chapter in 1858, and see that they are fully qualified for their stations in this respect. You will inform them not to permit any one to give instruction or do the work unless he has a dispensation therefor under the seal of the Most Excellent Grand High Priest, or written permission for this purpose from you, in which latter case you will immediately transmit to this office, for approval, the name of the person to whom permission is granted. It is expected that the officers should be able to do the work. You will, therefore, not confer the degrees for them in the Chapters, unless in peculiar

cases of which you will be the judge. You are, however, to give them such instruction as will enable them to do their own work. You will devote yourself to teaching the Pennsylvania work by Convocations of the officers of the Chapters in your district at convenient places and on appropriate occasions, or by visits to each Chapter, as you may deem most beneficial.

3. A record-book will be sent you, in which you will enter your visits to the Chapters, what instructions were given, and every thing relating to Royal Arch Masonry occurring in your district, important or useful to be known, and proper to be written and so preserved. This book must be sent to the Grand Secretary, for the examination of the Grand High Priest, before the 20th day of December next.

4. All officers and members of the Chapters in your district must, in the first instance, address you on all questions of work and Masonic law, and for all information relating thereto which they may seek. Your opinions, decisions and correspondence you will cause to be preserved, as part of the official record of your administration. Through you all appeals to this office must be made, and with every appeal you will send copies of your decision to which said appeal refers, and of the correspondence relating thereto.

5. You will impress, on all occasions, upon the minds of the officers their obligation of office, that they will attend the Annual and Quarterly Grand Communications of the Grand Chapter, on the first Thursday of February, May, August and November (annual election), and on St. John's Day.

6. I would call your attention to the false construction put upon Article XV, Section 7, page 31, of the Constitution of the Grand Chapter, referring to sojourners applying for the degrees forthwith. When the candidate does not reside near the Chapter to which he applies, the Chapter to which application is made *must*, in all cases, give notice, and *postpone all action on the petition for at least thirty days* from the date of sending the notice, except during the *summer months*, when at least *sixty days* must elapse before action is taken, in order that the nearest Chapter, to whom notice is required to be given, may have an opportunity to make careful examination and



reply. *Should the reply be that there is a good and sufficient Masonic objection to the candidate receiving the degrees applied for, all further proceedings must cease.* An applicant residing in one portion of the jurisdiction, and applying to a Chapter in another portion, *cannot* apply to receive the degrees forthwith as a sojourner. *Such is not a case of emergency.* The Constitution states very clearly that, in order to make it a case of emergency, the applicant is about to be absent from the *jurisdiction of Pennsylvania*, not the *jurisdiction of the subordinate Chapter*. The greatest care must also be exercised in regard to those who have been residents of this jurisdiction for a short time only. Such cases must never be acted upon forthwith, but must go to a committee for strict inquiry.

7. I would also call your attention to the violation of the Constitution by several of the subordinate Chapters in reference to the jewels for officers and Past High Priests. The Constitution describes the size, shape and style of such jewels, and the manner in which they are worn. *Subordinate Chapters must comply with the law, and the High Priest will not permit jewels unknown to the Constitution, and worn in an unmasonic manner, to be worn in open Chapter.*

You will cause the paragraphs 4, 5, 6 and 7 to be written in full upon the minutes of the Chapter in your district.

8. All former regulations inconsistent with the foregoing are hereby countermanded.

9. You will acknowledge promptly the receipt of commission and this letter of instructions to my address, Masonic Temple, Chestnut street, Philadelphia.

I am your Brother and Companion,

CHARLES E. MEYER,  
*Grand High Priest.*

STATISTICS OF SUBORDINATE CHAPTERS AND LODGES  
UNDER JURISDICTION OF  
GRAND CHAPTER OF PENNSYLVANIA,  
DECEMBER 27, 1872.

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CHAPTERS.

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**Jerusalem Chapter, No. 3.**

*Philadelphia. Fourth Monday.*

ABRAHAM NELSON BATTEN, High Priest.

Augustus R. Hall, King.

Samuel McCambridge, Scribe.

James B. VanOsten, Treasurer.

Dennis F. Dealy, Secretary.

29 Marked; 38 Most Excellent; 38 Exalted; 6 admitted or restored; 4 died or resigned; 7 suspended or expelled; 3 rejected; 327 members; fees, &c., \$202.30.

**Perseverance Chapter, No. 21.**

*Harrisburg. First Monday.*

SAMUEL H. SIMON, High Priest.

Robert Snodgrass, King.

Isaac D. Lutz, Scribe.

Elias S. Zollinger, Treasurer.

John T. Wilson, Secretary.

13 Marked; 13 Most Excellent; 12 Exalted; 3 admitted or restored; 1 died or resigned; 0 suspended or expelled; 0 rejected; 146 members; fees, &c., \$62.55.

**Chapter No. 43.**

*Lancaster. Fourth Wednesday.*

JOSEPH A. E. REED, High Priest.

William J. Fordney, King.

William Z. Sener, Scribe.

Charles A. Heinitsh, Treasurer.

Hugh S. Gara, Secretary.

26 Marked; 24 Most Excellent; 24 Exalted; 1 admitted or restored; 3 died or resigned; 6 suspended or expelled; 2 rejected; 284 members; fees, &c., \$121.95.



**Harmony Chapter, No. 52.***Philadelphia.**First Friday.*

WILLIAM H. BURKHARDT, High Priest.

William C. Hamilton, King.

John Curtis, Scribe.

R. Lloyd Lee, Treasurer.

William H. List, Secretary.

42 Marked; 57 Most Excellent; 54 Exalted; 0 admitted or restored; 26 died or resigned; 1 suspended or expelled; 0 rejected; 529 members; fees, &c., \$315.00.

**Columbia Chapter, No. 91.***Philadelphia.**Third Wednesday.*

JACOB ROBERTS, High Priest.

Thomas S. Woodbury, King.

John J. Heisler, Scribe.

John Thomson, Treasurer.

J. Alexander Simpson, Secretary.

7 Marked; 9 Most Excellent; 10 Exalted; 2 admitted or restored; 11 died or resigned; 5 suspended or expelled; 2 rejected; 370 members; fees, &c., \$166.00.

**Washington Chapter, No. 150.***Washington.**Second Tuesday.*

JOHN G. RUPLE, High Priest.

John C. McCoy, King.

H. D. Enoch, Scribe.

James Walters, Treasurer.

W. W. McKean, Secretary.

5 Marked; 5 Most Excellent; 5 exalted; 2 admitted or restored; 4 died or resigned; 0 suspended or expelled; 0 rejected; 43 members; fees, &c., \$20.40.

**Reading Chapter, No. 152.***Reading.**Second Monday.*

FREDERICK S. BOAS, High Priest.

Albert Ritter, King.

William J. Frame, Scribe.

Jesse Orr, Treasurer.

Henry A. Tyson, Secretary.

17 Marked; 17 Most Excellent; 19 Exalted; 2 admitted or restored; 7 died or resigned; 4 suspended or expelled; 2 rejected; 222 members; fees, &c., \$92.63.

**Schuylkill Chapter, No. 159.***Minersville.**Thursday on or before Full Moon.*

W. S. MOORHEAD, High Priest.

James Murray, King.

William Clark, Scribe.

Francis Bedford, Treasurer.

James F. G. Kumsius, Secretary.

3 Marked; 3 Most Excellent; 3 Exalted; 0 admitted or restored; 0 died or resigned; 0 suspended or expelled; 0 rejected; 48 members; fees, &c., \$12.36.

**Union Chapter, No. 161.***Towanda. First and Third Wednesday after Full Moon.*

CHARLES T. CROSS, High Priest.

James H. Coddington, King.

William Chamberlin, Scribe.

John A. Coddington, Treasurer.

H. B. McKean, Secretary.

3 Marked; 3 Most Excellent; 1 Exalted; 0 admitted or restored; 1 died or resigned; 0 suspended or expelled; 0 rejected; 93 members; fees, &c., \$30.90.

**Zerubbabel Chapter, No. 162.***Pittsburg. First Tuesday.*

JOSEPH LELAND LYTLE, High Priest.

George Bailey, King.

Charles Christian Baer, Scribe.

James Shidle, Treasurer.

William Dixon Spiking, Secretary.

21 Marked; 21 Most Excellent; 19 Exalted; 1 admitted or restored; 4 died or resigned; 0 suspended or expelled; 0 rejected; 309 members; fees, &c., \$122.70.

**Lafayette Chapter, No. 163.***Lock Haven. Thursday after Full Moon.*

FELIX J. TROXELL, High Priest.

William Reed, King.

Orrin J. Noble, Scribe.

Herman Simons, Treasurer.

William H. Smith, Secretary.

9 Marked; 8 Most Excellent; 7 Exalted; 1 admitted or restored; 30 died or resigned; 17 suspended or expelled; 3 rejected; 109 members; fees, &c., \$44.32.

**Brownsville Chapter, No. 164.***Brownsville. Second Tuesday.*

WILLIAM CHATLAND, High Priest.

Isaac Jackson, King.

D. D. Williams, Scribe.

J. W. Jeffries, Treasurer.

George W. Lenhart, Secretary.

2 Marked; 2 Most Excellent; 2 Exalted; 1 admitted or restored; 1 died or resigned; 1 suspended or expelled; 0 rejected; 40 members. Fees, &c., \$15.

**Mt. Moriah Chapter, No. 166.***Hollidaysburg. Third Tuesday.*

JOHN R. MCFARLANE, High Priest.

John Luckling, King.

John E. Burchinell, Scribe.

Alexander M. Lloyd, Treasurer.

Thomas McFarlane, Secretary.

0 Marked; 0 Most Excellent; 0 Exalted; 0 admitted or restored; 1 died or resigned; 0 suspended or expelled; 0 rejected; 54 members; fees, &c., \$16.50.



**Eureka Chapter, No. 167.***Rochester. Wednesday after Friday on or before Full Moon.*

J. R. PENDLETON, High Priest.

William B. Dunlap, King.

L. O. Anshutz, Scribe.

William Leaf, Treasurer.

John Conway, Secretary.

3 Marked; 4 Most Excellent; 3 Exalted; 0 admitted or restored; 1 died or resigned; 0 suspended or expelled; 0 rejected; 56 members; fees, &c., \$21.67.

**Philadelphia Chapter, No. 169.***Philadelphia.**Third Friday.*

JAMES NELSON, High Priest.

Hibbert P. John, King.

William H. Heck, Scribe.

W. H. Hooper, Treasurer.

John C. Snowden, Secretary.

11 Marked; 12 Most Excellent; 14 Exalted; 3 admitted or restored; 8 died or resigned; 1 suspended or expelled; 0 rejected; 215 members; fees, &c., \$111.50.

**Delta Chapter, No. 170.***New Castle.**Monday on or before Full Moon.*

JAMES J. WALLACE, High Priest.

William R. Johnson, King.

Samuel W. Smith, Scribe.

Leander Raney, Treasurer.

William S. Emory, Secretary.

3 Marked; 3 Most Excellent; 3 Exalted; 0 admitted or restored; 1 died or resigned; 0 suspended or expelled; 0 rejected; 37 members. Fees, &c., \$15.60.

**St. John's Chapter, No. 171.***Carlisle. First Thursday.*

JOHN GUTSHALL, High Priest.

Benjamin K. Spangler, King.

Isaac Livingston, Scribe.

John Hyer, Treasurer.

Ephraim Cornman, Secretary.

3 Marked; 3 Most Excellent; 3 Exalted; 0 admitted or restored; 2 died or resigned; 0 suspended or expelled; 0 rejected; 73 members; fees, &c., \$26.40.

**Temple Chapter, No. 172.***Tunkhannock. Monday after Full Moon.*

RICHARD P. ROSS, High Priest.

D. Billings, King.

Charles J. Henry, Scribe.

P. M. Osterhout, Treasurer.

A. E. Buck, Secretary.

3 Marked; 3 Most Excellent; 3 Exalted; 0 admitted or restored; 5 died or resigned; 1 suspended or expelled; 0 rejected; 18 members; fees, &c., \$9.90.

**Easton Chapter, No. 173.***Easton.**Fourth Monday.*

FREDERICK HILL, High Priest.

Gamble Young, King.

Abraham S. Deichman, Scribe.

A. Miller (c), Treasurer.

Daniel H. Neiman, Secretary.

3 Marked; 3 Most Excellent; 3 Exalted; 2 admitted or restored; 6 died or resigned; 4 suspended or expelled; 0 rejected; 50 members; fees, &c., \$57.90.

**Northumberland Chapter, No. 174.***Sunbury.**Wednesday preceding Full Moon.*

JAMES M. FARRA, High Priest.

A. G. Postlethwaite, King.

Samuel B. Morgan, Scribe.

Benjamin Zetelmoyer, Treasurer.

Henry Clement, Secretary.

0 Marked; 0 Most Excellent; 0 Exalted; 0 admitted or restored; 0 died or resigned; 0 suspended or expelled; 0 rejected; 89 members; fees, &c., \$26.70.

**Keystone Chapter, No. 175.***Philadelphia.**Fourth Thursday.*

ROBERT C. FLOYD, High Priest.

W. A. Sinn, King.

H. G. O. Ramborger, Scribe.

W. T. Taylor, Treasurer.

A. T. Jones, Secretary.

19 Marked; 21 Most Excellent; 26 Exalted; 1 admitted or restored; 5 died or resigned; 1 suspended or expelled; 0 rejected; 287 members; fees, &c., \$160.80.

**George Washington Chapter, No. 176.***Chambersburg.**First Monday.*

H. S. STONER, High Priest.

D. A. Wertz, King.

T. J. Grimison, Scribe.

D. K. Wunderlich, Treasurer.

A. C. McGrath, Secretary.

13 Marked; 13 Most Excellent; 12 Exalted; 1 admitted or restored; 1 died or resigned; 0 suspended or expelled; 0 rejected; 78 members; fees, &c., \$33.75.

**Tamaqua Chapter, No. 177.***Tamaqua.**Friday after Full Moon.*

WILLIAM W. BAILEY, High Priest.

Evan T. Jones, King.

Richard Boyd, Scribe.

M. P. Fowler, Treasurer.

William Barton, Secretary.

6 Marked; 6 Most Excellent; 7 Exalted; 2 admitted or restored; 3 died or resigned; 1 suspended or expelled; 0 rejected; 82 members; fees, &c., \$34.35.



**Catawissa Chapter, No. 178.***Catawissa. Wednesday on or before Full Moon.*

Warrant suspended March, 1873.

High Priest.

King. J. H. Seeshotz, Scribe.  
 Hiram J. Reeder, Treasurer. C. Ellis, Secretary.  
 2 Marked; 3 Most Excellent; 3 Exalted; 0 admitted or restored; 26 died or  
 resigned; 1 suspended or expelled; 0 rejected; 154 members; fees, &c., \$50.32.

**Eureka Chapter, No. 179.***Carbondale. Wednesday after Full Moon.*

JOHN ROBERTSON, High Priest.

Joseph Alexander, Jr., King. William L. Yarrington, Scribe.  
 David Moser, Treasurer. Charles O. Meller, Secretary.  
 1 Marked; 1 Most Excellent; 1 Exalted; 0 admitted or restored; 1 died or  
 resigned; 0 suspended or expelled; 0 rejected; 55 members; fees, &c., \$18.00.

**Warren Chapter, No. 180.***Montrose. Thursday on or before Full Moon.*

APOLLAS STONE, High Priest.

W. E. Babcock, King. Moses S. Dessauer, Scribe.  
 Leonard Searle, Jr., Treasurer. William L. Cox, Secretary.  
 1 Marked; 1 Most Excellent; 1 Exalted; 0 admitted or restored; 2 died or  
 resigned; 1 suspended or expelled; 0 rejected; 58 members; fees, &c., \$18.90.

**Lilly Chapter, No. 181.***Mauch Chunk. Fourth Tuesday.*

JAMES A. DINKEY, High Priest.

T. Clemson North, King. Joseph J. Poole, Scribe.  
 James J. Blackslee, Treasurer. James Houston, Secretary.  
 13 Marked; 11 Most Excellent; 9 Exalted; 0 admitted or restored; 3 died or  
 resigned; 1 suspended or expelled; 0 rejected; 142 members; fees, &c.,  
 \$58.35.

**Shekinah Chapter, No. 182.***Wilkesbarre. Third Tuesday.*

WILLIAM E. LINES, High Priest.

George W. Kirkendall King. Elliott P. Kisner, Scribe.  
 J. M. Courtright, Treasurer. T. S. Hillard, Secretary.  
 5 Marked; 5 Most Excellent; 5 Exalted; 1 admitted or restored; 12 died or  
 resigned; 0 suspended or expelled; 1 rejected; 85 members; fees, &c., \$36.45.

**Oriental Chapter, No. 183.***Philadelphia. Third Thursday.*

CHARLES C. DOUGLASS, High Priest.

William T. Reynolds, King.

B. Frank Abbett, Scribe.

Michael Nisbet, Treasurer.

Joseph H. Hedges, Secretary.

56 Marked; 70 Most Excellent; 71 Exalted; 1 admitted or restored; 16 died or resigned; 1 suspended or expelled; 1 rejected; 516 members; fees, &c., \$340.40.

**Lackawanna Chapter, No. 185.***Scranton. Second Tuesday.*

JAMES COWAN, High Priest.

James E. Brown, King.

S. D. Kingsley, Scribe.

E. P. Kingsberry, Treasurer.

C. L. Van Buskirk, Secretary.

9 Marked; 10 Most Excellent; 8 Exalted; 3 admitted or restored; 3 died or resigned; 1 suspended or expelled; 0 rejected; 106 members; fees, &c., \$17.33.

**Lewistown Chapter, No. 186.***Lewistown. Third Tuesday.*

GEORGE MACKLIN, High Priest.

John D. Cox, King.

William H. Swanzey, Scribe.

William Willis, Treasurer.

David E. Robeson, Secretary.

0 Marked; 0 Most Excellent; 0 Exalted; 1 admitted or restored; 1 died or resigned; 0 suspended or expelled; 0 rejected; 54 members; fees, &c., \$16.20.

**Oriental Chapter, No. 187.***Conneautville. First and Third Fridays.*

D. D. WILLIAMS, High Priest.

E. S. Litchfield, King.

D. M. Williams, Scribe.

W. T. McMurty, Treasurer.

N. Truesdale, Secretary.

12 Marked; 12 Most Excellent; 12 Exalted; 0 admitted or restored; 2 died or resigned; 2 suspended or expelled; 0 rejected; 51 members; fees, &c., \$33.30.

**Mountain Chapter, No. 189.***Altoona. First Thursday.*

JOHN R. FRAZER, High Priest.

Herman L. Delo, King.

Robert M. Wallace, Scribe.

A. H. Maxwell, Treasurer.

Timothy Davis, Secretary.

6 Marked; 6 Most Excellent; 6 Exalted; 1 admitted or restored; 2 died or resigned; 0 suspended or expelled; 0 rejected; 67 members; fees, &c., \$29.10.



**Norristown Chapter, No. 190.***Norristown.**Second Monday.*

MARTIN MOLONY, High Priest.

George A. Lenzi, King.

Benjamin Thomas, Scribe.

Edmund A. Kite, Treasurer.

Franklin T. Beerer, Secretary.

9 Marked; 16 Most Excellent; 16 Exalted; 1 admitted or restored; 6 died or resigned; 6 suspended or expelled; 1 rejected; 128 members; fees, &c.. \$59.58.

**Solomon Chapter, No. 191.***Meadville.**First Tuesday.*

FRANK H. FOSTER, High Priest.

Henry Church, King.

John Dick, Scribe.

Jesse M. Dick, Treasurer,

Lewis M. Metcalf, Secretary.

11 Marked; 11 Most Excellent; 11 Exalted; 5 admitted or restored; 0 died or resigned; 0 suspended or expelled; 1 rejected; 93 members; fees, &c., \$44.40.

**Urania Chapter, No. 192.***Greensburg.**Fourth Tuesday.*

CLARK T. WARDEN, High Priest.

James W. Wilson, King.

Robert A. Turney, Scribe.

David W. Shryock, Treasurer.

J. H. Highberger, Secretary.

11 Marked; 11 Most Excellent; 11 Exalted; 2 admitted or restored; 1 died or resigned; 0 suspended or expelled; 0 rejected; 107 members; fees, &c., \$48.60.

**Duquesne Chapter, No. 193.***Pittsburg.**Fourth Tuesday.*

ATLEE V. COALE, High Priest.

James H. Murdock, King.

Albert G. Lucas, Scribe.

John Evans, Treasurer.

Stephen T. Northam, Secretary.

25 Marked; 21 Most Excellent; 23 exalted; 3 admitted or restored; 6 died or resigned; 7 suspended or expelled; 1 rejected; 222 members; fees, &c., \$101.10.

**Tioga Chapter, No. 194.***Wellsboro.**Thursday on or before Full Moon.*

JAMES H. BOSARD, High Priest.

Thomas B. Bryden, King.

Robert Roy, Scribe.

A. Foley, Treasurer.

M. Bullard, Secretary.

2 Marked; 2 Most Excellent; 2 Exalted; 0 admitted or restored; 1 died or resigned; 7 suspended or expelled; 0 rejected; 46 members; fees, &c., \$16.80.

**Portage Chapter, No. 195.***Johnstown.**Fourth Tuesday.*

THOMAS H. LAPSLEY, High Priest.

Wesley J. Rose, King.

James McMillin, Scribe.

John Benton, Treasurer.

Benjamin F. Speedy, Secretary.

o Marked; o Most Excellent; o Exalted; 2 admitted or restored; o died or resigned; o suspended or expelled; o rejected; 43 members; fees, &c., \$12.90.

**Mountain City Chapter, No. 196.***Pottsville.**Monday after Full Moon.*

WALTER S. SHEAFER, High Priest.

Robert A. Reid, King.

William H. Lewis, Scribe.

Daniel D. Moreton, Treasurer.

Emanuel Oppenheim, Secretary.

8 Marked; 9 Most Excellent; 9 Exalted; 1 admitted or restored; 1 died or resigned; o suspended or expelled; o rejected; 108 members; fees, &c., \$49.53.

**Weidle Chapter, No. 197.***Lebanon.**Second Tuesday.*

JOSEPH L. LEMBERGER, High Priest.

George P. Lineaweaver, King.

John Matthews, Scribe.

John D. Krause, Treasurer.

William G. Ward, Secretary.

6 Marked; 5 Most Excellent; 3 Exalted; o admitted or restored; 3 died or resigned; o suspended or expelled; 1 rejected; 74 members; fees, &c., \$28.57.

**Phœnix Chapter, No. 198.***Phanixville.**Saturday after Full Moon.*

WILLIAM H. CLEGG, High Priest.

V. N. Shaffer, King.

J. H. Bender, Scribe.

John Vanderslice, Treasurer.

Joseph Dobson, Secretary.

7 Marked; 5 Most Excellent; 5 Exalted; o admitted or restored; 1 died or resigned; 10 suspended or expelled; 1 rejected; 79 members; fees, &c., \$31.95.

**Howell Chapter, No. 199.***York.**Second Wednesday.*

SAMUEL J. ROUSE, High Priest.

Israel F. Gross, King.

Edwin C. Epley, Scribe.

Martin J. Skinner, Treasurer.

Fitz James Evans, Secretary.

6 Marked; 6 Most Excellent; 6 Exalted; 4 admitted or restored; 4 died or resigned; 2 suspended or expelled; o rejected; 119 members; fees, &c., \$44.70.



**Columbus Chapter, No. 200.***Corry. Thursday on or before Full Moon.*

SENECA WARNER, High Priest.

Randall H. Palmer, King.

A. L. Langdon, Scribe.

William C. Howard, Treasurer.

David S. Rowe, Secretary.

3 Marked; 3 Most Excellent; 4 Exalted; 1 admitted or restored; 1 died or resigned; 11 suspended or expelled; 0 rejected; 59 members; fees, &c., \$22.95.

**Standing Stone Chapter, No. 201.***Huntingdon.**First Tuesday.*

R. ALLEN LOVELL, High Priest.

Thomas V. Johnston, King.

J. Simpson Africa, Scribe.

Graffus Miller, Treasurer.

William B. Ziegler, Secretary.

0 Marked; 1 Most Excellent; 1 Exalted; 0 admitted or restored; 2 died or resigned; 0 suspended or expelled; 0 rejected; 42 members; fees, &c., \$13.72½.

**Howell Chapter, No. 202.***West Chester.**First Monday after Full Moon.*

NORRIS T. SMITH, High Priest.

George R. Hoopes, King.

Charles P. Hewes, Scribe.

William H. Morgan, Secretary.

William D. Christman, Secretary.

0 Marked; 1 Most Excellent; 2 Exalted; 0 admitted or restored; 1 died or resigned; 1 suspended or expelled; 0 rejected; 59 members; fees, &c., \$19.58.

**Allen Chapter, No. 203.***Allentown.**Monday on or before Full Moon.*

HENRY K. HARTZELL, High Priest.

Robert H. Fogle, King.

James B. Roeder, Scribe.

Aaron Troxell, Treasurer.

Francis B. Heebner, Secretary.

14 Marked; 12 Most Excellent; 14 Exalted; 2 admitted or restored; 2 died or resigned; 0 suspended or expelled; 3 rejected; 137 members; fees, &c., \$61.35. Returns not correct.

**Anthony Wayne Chapter, No. 204.***Honesdale.**Tuesday succeeding Full Moon.*

HENRY J. TARBLE, High Priest.

Robert A. Smith, King.

Horace T. Menner, Scribe.

Charles Peterson, Treasurer.

Charles Menner, Secretary.

1 Marked; 0 Most Excellent; 0 Exalted; 0 admitted or restored; 5 died or resigned; 0 suspended or expelled; 0 rejected; 36 members; fees, &c., \$11.18. Returns not correct.

**Factoryville Chapter, No. 205.***Factoryville. Wednesday on or before Full Moon.*

Work suspended by Grand High Priest on account of insecurity of place of meeting.

**Harmony Chapter, No. 206.***New Brighton. First Thursday.*

EDWARD A. NOBLE, High Priest.

William H. Green, King.

Augustus Tomlinson, Scribe.

Philip Murtsolf, Treasurer.

Harry C. Patterson, Secretary.

1 Marked; 1 Most Excellent; 1 Exalted; 0 admitted or restored; 0 died or resigned; 0 suspended or expelled; 0 rejected; 21 members; fees, &c., \$10.40.

**Aaron Chapter, No. 207.***Titusville. Third Friday.*

JAMES W. GRAHAM, High Priest.

William B. Clark, King.

Marcus E. Bassett, Scribe.

Jacob Strauss, Treasurer.

Theodore J. Young, Secretary.

28 Marked; 28 Most Excellent; 29 Exalted; 16 admitted or restored; 2 died or resigned; 6 suspended or expelled; 1 rejected; 140 members; fees, &c., \$84.75.

**Germantown Chapter, No. 208.***Germantown. Fourth Monday.*

WILLIAM DAVIS, High Priest.

Thomas J. Davis, King.

George Scatchard, Scribe.

William P. Walter, Treasurer.

Alexander P. Keyser, Secretary.

11 Marked; 13 Most Excellent; 13 Exalted; 1 admitted or restored; 1 died or resigned; 0 suspended or expelled; 0 rejected; 116 members; fees, &c., \$71.40.

**Samuel C. Perkins Chapter, No. 209.***Mechanicsburg. Second Monday.*

Returns not received according to the requirements of the Constitution.

**Great Bend Chapter, No. 210.***Great Bend. Thursday on or before Full Moon.*

WILLIAM W. SIMRELL, High Priest.

P. T. B. Emmons, King.

Charles Simpson, Scribe.

Oliver Trowbridge, Treasurer.

John B. Johnston, Secretary.

8 Marked; 8 Most Excellent; 0 Exalted; 0 admitted or restored; 6 died or resigned; 10 suspended or expelled; 0 rejected; 60 members; fees, &c., \$24.00.



**Venango Chapter, No. 211.***Franklin.**Second Thursday.*

CHARLES W. MACKEY, High Priest.

Joseph Bell, King.

Joseph H. Simonds, Scribe.

Miles W. Sage, Treasurer.

David D. Grant, Secretary.

7 Marked; 6 Most Excellent; 10 Exalted; 2 admitted or restored; 0 died or resigned; 0 suspended or expelled; 0 rejected; 55 members; fees, &c., \$28.88.

**Mound Chapter, No. 212.***Greenville. Second and Fourth Mondays.*

JOSEPH VICKERS, High Priest.

C. R. Beatty, King.

H. H. Leninger, Scribe.

H. N. Shrom, Treasurer.

J. E. Millhouse, Secretary.

4 Marked; 4 Most Excellent; 4 Exalted; 0 admitted or restored; 0 died or resigned; 2 suspended or expelled; 0 rejected; 63 members; fees, &c., \$24.90.

**Girard Chapter, No. 213.***Girard. Second and Fourth Fridays.*

GEORGE FENINGHAM, High Priest.

Henry A Traut, King.

David Nason, Scribe.

S. S. Mason, Treasurer.

A. R. Smith, Secretary.

0 Marked; 0 Most Excellent; 0 Exalted; 0 admitted or restored; 0 died or resigned; 3 suspended or expelled; 0 rejected; 19 members; fees, &c., \$5.70.

**Valley Chapter, No. 214.***Plymouth. Friday on or before Full Moon.*

S. L. FRENCH, High Priest.

Charles W. Jenkins, King.

John F. Nicely, Scribe.

E. C. Wadhams, Treasurer.

Charles F. Derby, Secretary.

2 Marked; 2 Most Excellent; 2 Exalted; 0 admitted or restored; 4 died or resigned; 0 suspended or expelled; 0 rejected; 39 members; fees, &c., \$14.70.

**Temple Chapter, No. 215.***Erie. First and Third Mondays.*

Returns not received according to the requirements of the Constitution.

**Zinzendorf Chapter, No. 216.***Bethlehem.**Second Monday.*

MORRIS A. BORHEK, High Priest.

George H. Myers, King.

Allen J. Lawall, Scribe.

C. M. Knauss, Treasurer.

William V. Knauss, Secretary.

2 Marked; 2 Most Excellent; 2 Exalted; 0 admitted or restored; 0 died or resigned; 0 suspended or expelled; 0 rejected; 65 members; fees, &c., \$22.50.

**Alleghany Chapter, No. 217.***Alleghany.**First Friday.*

WILLIAM H. SLACK, High Priest.

R. A. Armstrong, King.

William Stuart, Scribe.

Nathan Graham, Treasurer.

A. H. Bocking, Secretary.

31 Marked; 31 Most Excellent; 28 Exalted; 0 admitted or restored; 3 died or resigned; 0 suspended or expelled; 1 rejected; 187 members; fees, &c., \$100.37.

**Bloomsburg Chapter, No. 218.***Bloomsburg.**First Wednesday.*

WILLIAM PEACOCK, High Priest.

John C. Rutter, King.

William O. Holmes, Scribe.

Jeremiah J. Brower, Treasurer.

C. F. Knapp, Secretary.

5 Marked; 7 Most Excellent; 6 Exalted; 0 admitted or restored; 3 died or resigned; 0 suspended or expelled; 0 rejected; 52 members; fees, &c., \$23.30.

**Griscom Chapter, No. 219.***Ashland.**Third Thursday.*

FREDERICK MILLER, High Priest.

William H. Anthony, King.

Levi C. Leib, Scribe.

Henry S. Boner, Treasurer.

George H. Helfrich, Secretary.

13 Marked; 9 Most Excellent; 9 Exalted; 0 admitted or restored; 1 died or resigned; 3 suspended or expelled; 1 rejected; 62 members; fees, &c., \$33.60.

**Fort Washington Chapter, No. 220.***Fort Washington. Thursday before Full Moon.*

ROBERT GRAY, High Priest.

Thomas J. Wentz, King.

Scribe.

Henry Unger, Treasurer.

Joseph Rex, Secretary.

0 Marked; 1 Most Excellent; 0 Exalted; 0 admitted or restored; 0 died or resigned; 1 suspended or expelled; 0 rejected; 30 members; fees, &c., \$12.00.



**Tremont Chapter, No. 221.***Tremont. First Monday after Full Moon.*

WILLIAM J. LEWIS, High Priest.

John B. Zeibach, King.

Calvin W. Brower, Scribe.

Adam Ferg, Treasurer.

Benjamin Kaufman, Secretary.

2 Marked; 1 Most Excellent; 1 Exalted; 1 admitted or restored; 0 died or resigned; 0 suspended or expelled; 0 rejected; 31 members; fees, &c., \$11.18.

**Lycoming Chapter, No. 222.***Williamsport.**Second Tuesday.*

JOSEPH CRAWFORD, High Priest.

Ezra B. Westfall, King.

Addis McVeagh, Scribe.

A. Niemeyer, Treasurer.

William R. Prior, Secretary.

9 Marked; 9 Most Excellent; 9 Exalted; 2 admitted or restored; 2 died or resigned; 5 suspended or expelled; 3 rejected; 83 members; fees, &c., \$32.40.

**Oxford Chapter, No. 223.***Oxford.**Wednesday after Full Moon.*

SAMUEL H. DICKEY, High Priest.

George D. Hayes, King.

Samuel H. Dillin, Scribe.

Franklin P. Ash, Treasurer.

James Black, Secretary.

3 Marked; 3 Most Excellent; 1 Exalted; 0 admitted or restored; 1 died or resigned; 0 suspended or expelled; 1 rejected; 38 members; fees, &c., \$14.40.

**Corinthian Chapter, No. 224.***Columbia. Second Tuesday.*

CHARLES H. MCCULLOUGH, High Priest.

C. L. P. Boice, King.

Julius L. Shuman, Scribe.

Tinney Skeen, Treasurer.

Stephen C. Clair, Secretary.

6 Marked; 6 Most Excellent; 6 Exalted; 1 admitted or restored; 1 died or resigned; 1 suspended or expelled; 0 rejected; 57 members; fees, &c., \$26.10.

**Jefferson Chapter, No. 225.***Brookville. First Wednesday after Second Monday.*

JAMES S. GEORGE, High Priest.

Wilson R. Ramsey, King.

James K. Hamilton, Scribe.

Madison M. Meredith, Treasurer.

Williamson D. J. Marlin, Secretary.

0 Marked; 1 Most Excellent; 1 Exalted; 0 admitted or restored; 0 died or resigned; 0 suspended or expelled; 0 rejected; 31 members; fees, &c., \$13.90.

**Siloam Chapter, No. 226.***Frankford.**Third Wednesday.*

HARRY T. GARSED, High Priest.

Edward E. Williams, King.

John Cartledge, Scribe.

John Cooper, Treasurer.

Thaddeus Stearne, Secretary.

12 Marked; 25 Most Excellent; 15 Exalted; 0 admitted or restored; 1 died or resigned; 0 suspended or expelled; 1 rejected; 74 members; fees, &c., \$58.10.

**Emporium Chapter, No. 227.***Emporium.**First and Third Wednesdays.*

JOHN B. NEWTON, High Priest.

H. C. Rockwell, King.

Joseph W. Cochran, Scribe.

F. J. Goodwin, Treasurer.

Caleb Sweasey, Secretary.

1 Marked; 1 Most Excellent; 2 Exalted; 0 admitted or restored; 0 died or resigned; 0 suspended or expelled; 0 rejected; 35 members; fees, &c., \$12.00.

**Clearfield Chapter, No. 228.***Clearfield.**Fourth Wednesday.*

WILLIAM M. McCULLOUGH, High Priest.

John R. Cullingworth, King.

Hiram T. King, Scribe.

William R. McPherson, Treasurer.

William Radebaugh, Secretary.

11 Marked; 10 Most Excellent; 10 Exalted; 0 admitted or restored; 1 died or resigned; 0 suspended or expelled; 0 rejected; 60 members; fees, &c., \$44.50.

**Newtown Chapter, No. 229.***Newtown.**Wednesday after Full Moon.*

JOHN STACKHOUSE, High Priest.

Joseph W. Willard, King.

Henry D. Lefferts, Scribe.

William K. Carver, Treasurer.

O. W. Worstall, Secretary.

4 Marked; 4 Most Excellent; 4 Exalted; 0 admitted or restored; 0 died or resigned; 0 suspended or expelled; 0 rejected; 31 members; fees, &c., \$15.30.

**Elk Chapter, No. 230.***Ridgeway.**Third Tuesday.*

WALTER S. SERVIS, High Priest.

Rufus Lucore, King.

William H. Schram, Scribe.

Byron F. Ely, Treasurer.

George L. McCracken, Secretary.

6 Marked; 6 Most Excellent; 6 Exalted; 0 admitted or restored; 0 died or resigned; 0 suspended or expelled; 0 rejected; 46 members; fees, &c., \$22.80.



**Bristol Chapter, No. 231.***Bristol. Saturday after Full Moon.*

JACOB MCBRIEN, High Priest.

Benjamin F. Gilkeson, King.

Charles E. Scott, Scribe.

William B. Baker, Treasurer.

Lewis M. Wharton, Secretary.

5 Marked; 7 Most Excellent; 7 Exalted; 0 admitted or restored; 0 died or resigned; 0 suspended or expelled; 0 rejected; 40 members; fees, &c., \$21.75.

**St. John Chapter, No. 232.***Philadelphia. First Tuesday.*

EDWARD S. KEELER, High Priest.

John M. Howland, King.

Robert H. Vaughan, Scribe.

Edward Masson, Treasurer.

Charles Carroll Burns, Secretary.

31 Marked; 37 Most Excellent; 38 Exalted; 0 admitted or restored; 2 died or resigned; 0 suspended or expelled; 0 rejected; 168 members; fees, &c., \$139.20.

**Kensington Chapter, No. 233.***Kensington, Philadelphia City. Fourth Monday.*

SIDNEY R. MORRIS, High Priest.

Griffith O. Storrie, King.

Henry R. Price, Scribe.

Jonathan Dickinson, Treasurer.

Charles K. Neisser, Secretary.

67 Marked; 92 Most Excellent; 94 Exalted; 1 admitted or restored; 2 died or resigned; 0 suspended or expelled; 2 rejected; 274 members; fees, &c., \$283.10.

**Media Chapter, No. 234.***Media. Tuesday after Full Moon.*

DANIEL MCCLINTOCK, High Priest.

Samuel Rhoads, King.

William T. W. Dickeson, Scribe.

George W. Ormsby, Treasurer.

Joseph G. Cummins, Secretary.

1 Marked; 3 Most Excellent; 3 Exalted; 0 admitted or restored; 1 died or resigned; 0 suspended or expelled; 0 rejected; 39 members; fees, &c., \$15.45.

**Occidental Chapter, No. 235.***Warren. First and Third Mondays.*

HENRY S. GETZ, High Priest.

Franklin C. Rockwell, King.

Joseph F. Wells, Scribe.

Stephen Carver, Treasurer.

Charles H. Noyes, Secretary.

8 Marked; 8 Most Excellent; 8 Exalted; 1 admitted or restored; 1 died or resigned; 1 suspended or expelled; 0 rejected; 27 members; fees, &c., \$20.10.

**Oil City Chapter, No. 236.***Oil City. Second and Fourth Thursdays.*

ANDREW W. COX, High Priest.

Charles L. Catlin, King.

William McNair, Scribe.

William H. Duncan, Treasurer.

William F. Groves, Secretary.

19 Marked; 14 Most Excellent; 14 Exalted; 21 admitted or restored; 0 died or resigned; 1 suspended or expelled; 0 rejected; 43 members; fees, &c., \$35.78.

**Excelsior Chapter, No. 237.***Reading. Third Wednesday.*

MAHLON F. WOLF, High Priest.

Emanuel J. Rauch, King.

Calvin D. Moser, Scribe.

John D. Raudenbush, Treasurer.

Edward H. Schearer, Secretary.

29 Marked; 31 Most Excellent; 32 Exalted; 10 admitted or restored; 0 died or resigned; 0 suspended or expelled; 0 rejected; 51 members; fees, &c., \$61.80.

**Newport Chapter, No. 238.***Newport. Monday preceding the Tuesday before Full Moon.*

P. L. GREENLEAF, High Priest.

Harry C. Eagle, King.

John E. Hollobaugh, Scribe.

H. H. Bechtel, Treasurer.

William H. Bosserman, Secretary.

7 Marked; 7 Most Excellent; 7 Exalted; 0 admitted or rejected; 0 died or resigned; 0 suspended or expelled; 0 rejected; 17 members; fees, &c., \$15.60.

**Danville Chapter, No. 239.***Danville. First Monday.*

WILSON M. GEARHART, High Priest.

John W. VonNeida, King.

Alexander J. Frick, Scribe.

David Clark, Treasurer.

Frank C. Derr, Secretary.

1 Marked; 0 Most Excellent; 0 Exalted; 25 admitted; 0 died or resigned; 0 suspended or expelled; 0 rejected; 26 members; fees, &c., \$10.90.

**Palestine Chapter, No. 240.***Philadelphia. Fourth Tuesday.*

EDWARD R. WORRELL, High Priest.

Andrew Zane, Jr., King.

William B. Wood, Scribe.

John S. Thackray, Treasurer.

Charles Mathews, Jr., Secretary.

22 Marked; 26 Most Excellent; 24 Exalted; 51 admitted; 0 died or suspended; 0 suspended or expelled; 0 rejected; 77 members; fees, &c., \$78.80.



**Bellefonte Chapter, No. 241.***Bellefonte. Thursday preceding Second Friday.*

DANIEL GRIFFIN BUSH, High Priest.

Adolph Loeb, King.

Harmann Lechler, Scribe.

John P. Harris, Treasurer.

George B. Weaver, Secretary.

10 Marked; 10 Most Excellent; 10 Exalted; 25 admitted or restored; 0 died or resigned; 0 suspended or expelled; 0 rejected; fees, &c., \$25.50.

**MARK LODGES.****Columbia Mark Lodge, No. 91.***Philadelphia.**Second Monday.*

HORACE G. O. RAMBORGER, Worshipful Master.

Arthur S. Simpson, Senior Warden.

Joseph R. Clausen, Junior Warden.

William Leach, Treasurer.

James Bleloch, Secretary.

4 Marked; 2 admitted or restored; 17 died or resigned; 17 suspended or expelled; 0 rejected; 860 members; fees, &c., \$174.00.

**Girard Mark Lodge, No. 214.***Philadelphia.**Second Tuesday.*

A. NELSON BATTEN, Worshipful Master.

George E. Wagner, Senior Warden.

Robert Clark, Junior Warden.

Harman Baugh, Treasurer.

Thomas S. Woodbury, Secretary.

2 Marked; 0 admitted or restored; 17 died or resigned; 6 suspended or expelled; 0 rejected; 889 members; fees, &c., \$178.80.

**Excelsior Mark Lodge, No. 216.***Philadelphia.**Third Tuesday.*

J. FRANK KNIGHT, Worshipful Master.

Jacob F. Stahl, Senior Warden.

Lewis McAllister, Junior Warden.

Thomas R. Patton, Treasurer.

Samuel W. Wray, Secretary.

1 Marked; 0 admitted or restored; 17 died or resigned; 11 suspended or expelled; 0 rejected; 650 members; fees, &c., \$130.50.

## RÉCAPITULATION.

Mark Lodges.	1871.	1872.
Number of Mark Lodges.....	3	3
Marked.....	14	7
Suspended or Expelled.....	87	34
Died or Resigned.....	54	51
Admitted or Restored.....	0	2
Members.....	2476	2399

Chapters.		
Number of Subordinate Chapters.....	81	86
Marked.....	966	814
Received and Accepted Most Excellent Masters.....	1039	909
Exalted.....	1132	988
Admitted or Restored.....	110	188
Died or Resigned.....	157	259
Suspended or Expelled.....	124	133
Rejected.....	32	32
Number of Members.....	7119	8226
Three Chapters have not made their returns. Their last report returned as members.....		183
Making total number of members in 1872.....		8409



# REPRESENTATIVES

## OF THE

### GRAND HOLY ROYAL ARCH CHAPTER OF PENNSYLVANIA

*NEAR OTHER GRAND CHAPTERS.*

Comp. HENRY R. SWASEY, near Grand Chapter of LOUISIANA.

“ JOHN WOOLVERTON,	“	“	“	NEW JERSEY.
“ JOHN D. DAGGETT,	“	“	“	MISSOURI.
“ JAMES R. BAYLEY,	“	“	“	OREGON.
“ JOHN W. SIMONS,	“	“	“	NEW YORK.
“ GEO. W. JENKINS,	“	“	“	TENNESSEE.
“ MARQUIS F. KING,	“	“	“	MAINE.
“ WM. J. HUGHAN,	“ Grand Mark Lodge, ENGLAND.			

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# REPRESENTATIVES

## OF OTHER GRAND CHAPTERS

*NEAR THE GRAND CHAPTER OF PENNSYLVANIA.*

Comp. MICHAEL NISBET, from Grand Chapter of OREGON.

“ SAMUEL C. PERKINS,	“	“	“	LOUISIANA.
“ ALFRED R. POTTER,	“	“	“	NEW YORK.
“ JOHN WILSON, JR.,	“	“	“	MAINE.
“ CHARLES E. MEYER,	Grand Mark Lodge of ENGLAND.			

## DISTRICT DEPUTY GRAND HIGH PRIESTS.

DISTRICT.	DISTRICT DEPUTY GRAND HIGH PRIEST.	RESIDENCE.	LOCATION OF CHAPTER.		CHAPTER.	
			COUNTY.	CITY OR TOWN.	No.	NAME.
1	CHARLES M. HOWELL....	Lancaster, Lancaster county.....	Philadelphia.....	Philadelphia.....	3	Jerusalem.
			"	"	52	Harmony.
			"	"	91	Columbia.
			"	"	169	Philadelphia.
			"	"	175	Keystone.
			"	"	183	Oriental.
			"	"	232	St. John.
			"	"	233	Kensington.
			"	German town.....	208	German town.
			"	Frankford .....	226	Siloam.
			"	Philadelphia.....	240	Palestine.
2	REV. JOSEPH S. EVANS...	West Chester, Chester county.....	Lancaster.....	Lancaster.....	43	Corinthian.
			"	Columbia.....	224	Howell.
			York .....	York.....	199	
			Perry.....	Newport.....	238	
			Chester .....	West Chester.....	202	Howell.
			"	Oxford.....	223	Oxford.
			Delaware .....	Media .....	234	Media.
3	ROBERT H. THOMAS.....	Mechanicsburg, Cumberland co....	Cumberland.....	Carlisle.....	171	St. Johns.
			"	Mechanicsburg.....	209	Samuel C. Perkins.
4	JOSEPH L. LEMBERGER...	Lebanon, Lebanon county.....	Franklin .....	Chambersburg.....	176	Geo. Washington.
			Adams.			
			Lebanon .....	Lebanon .....	197	Weidle.
			Dauphin .....	Harrisburg .....	21	Perseverance.
			Berks .....	Reading .....	152	Reading.
			"	"	237	Excelsior.



DISTRICT.	DISTRICT DEPUTY GRAND HIGH PRIEST.	RESIDENCE.	LOCATION OF CHAPTER.		CHAPTER.	
			COUNTY.	CITY OR TOWN.	No.	NAME.
5	H. A. WILTBERGER.....	Allentown, Lehigh county.....	Northampton..... Lehigh ..... " .....	Easton..... Allentown..... Bethlehem .....	173 203 216	Easton. Allen. Zinzendorf.
6	THADDEUS S. HILLARD...	Wilkesbarre, Luzerne county.....	Carbon ..... Luzerne..... " .....	Mauch Chunk..... Wilkesbarre..... Scranton .....	181 182 185	Lilly. Shekinah. Lackawanna.
			" .....	Plymouth .....	214	Valley.
			" .....	Carbondale .....	179	Eureka.
			Pike. Monroe.			
7	JOHN H. DUSENBURY.....	Great Bend, Susquehanna county...	Wayne ..... Susquehanna ..... " .....	Honesdale ..... Great Bend..... Montrose.....	204 210 180	Anthony Wayne. Great Bend. Warren.
8	WILLIAM A. PECK.....	Towanda, Bradford county.....	Sullivan. Bradford..... Wyoming .....	Towanda..... Tunkhannock..... Factoryville.....	161 172 205	Union. Temple. Factoryville.
9	ROBERT C. SIMPSON.....	Wellsboro', Tioga county.....	Tioga ..... Potter. McKean. Columbia .....	Wellsboro' ..... ..... ..... Catawissa.....	194	Tioga.
10	CHRISTIAN F. KNAPP.....	Blöomsburg, Columbia county.....	" .....	Bloomsburg .....	218	Blöomsburg.
			Montour..... Union.	Danville .....	241	Danville.
			Snyder.			
11	GEORGE S. SNYDER.....	Williamsport, Lycoming county.....	Northumberland... Lycoming ..... Clinton..... Centre.....	Sunbury ..... Williamsport ..... Lock Haven..... Bellefonte .....	174 222 163 239	Northumberland. Lycoming. La Fayette. Bellefonte.

DISTRICT.	DISTRICT DEPUTY GRAND HIGH PRIEST.	RESIDENCE.	LOCATION OF CHAPTER.		CHAPTER.	
			COUNTY.	CITY OR TOWN.	No.	NAME.
12	CHAS. R. EARLEY, M. D.	Earley, Elk county.....	Elk .....	Ridgway .....	230	Elk.
13	EDMUND H. TURNER.....	Saxton, Bedford county.....	Cameron .....	Emporium .....	227	Emporium.
			Blair .....	Holidaysburg.....	166	Mount Moriah.
14	WILLIAM CHATLAND.....	Brownsville, Fayette county.....	" .....	Altoona.....	189	Mountain.
			Cambria.....	Johnstown.....	195	Portage.
			Huntingdon .....	Huntingdon .....	201	Standingstone.
			Mifflin .....	Lewistown.....	186	Lewistown.
			Juniata.			
			Bedford.			
			Fulton.			
15	GETER C. SHIDLE.....	Pittsburg, Alleghany county.....	Washington .....	Washington .....	150	Washington.
			Fayette .....	Brownsville .....	164	Brownsville.
			Greene .....	Uniontown .....	168	
			Somerset.			
			Alleghany .....	Pittsburg .....	162	Zerubbabel.
16	Z. C. McCULLOUGH .....	Clearfield, Clearfield county.....	" .....	" .....	193	Duquesne.
			" .....	Alleghany.....	217	Alleghany.
			Westmoreland.....	Greensburg .....	192	Urania.
			Armstrong.			
			Butler.			
17	CHRISTIAN M. HOOVER..	Franklin, Venango county.....	Indiana.			
			Beaver .....	Rochester .....	167	Eureka.
			" .....	New Brighton.....	206	Harmony.
			Clearfield.....	Clearfield .....	228	Clearfield.
			Jefferson.....	Brookville.....	225	Jefferson.
17	CHRISTIAN M. HOOVER..	Franklin, Venango county.....	Clarion.			
			Forest.			
			Venango .....	Franklin .....	211	Venango.
			" .....	Oil City.....	236	Oil City.
			Warren .....	Corry.....	200	Columbus.
			" .....	Warren.....	235	Occidental.



DISTRICT.	DISTRICT DEPUTY GRAND HIGH PRIEST.	RESIDENCE.	LOCATION OF CHAPTER.		CHAPTER.	
			COUNTY.	CITY OR TOWN.	No.	NAME.
18	FRANK H. FOSTER.....	Meadville, Crawford county.....	Erie .....	Girard .....	213	Girard.
			" .....	Erie.....	215	Temple.
			Crawford.....	Titusville.....	207	Aaron.
			Mercer .....	Greenville .....	212	Mound.
			Lawrence.....	New Castle.....	170	Delta.
19	SAMUEL BROWN, JR.....	Norristown, Montgomery county....	Crawford.....	Conneautville.....	187	Oriental.
			" .....	Meadville .....	191	Solomon's.
			Montgomery.....	Norristown .....	190	Norristown.
			" .....	Fort Washington..	220	Fort Washington.
			Bucks .....	Newtown .....	229	Newtown.
			" .....	Bristol.....	231	Bristol.
			Chester.....	Phoenixville .....	198	Phoenix.
			Schuylkill .....	Minersville ...	159	Schuylkill.
			" .....	Tamaqua .....	177	Tamaqua.
			" .....	Pottsville .....	196	Mountain City.
20	GEORGE P. OWEN.....	Tremont, Schuylkill county.....	" .....	Ashland.....	219	Griscom.
			" .....	Tremont.....	221	Tremont.
			LOCATION OF MARK LODGE.		MARK LODGE.	
			COUNTY.	CITY.	No.	NAME.
			Philadelphia.....	Philadelphia.....	91	Columbia.
	" .....	" .....	214	Girard.		
	" .....	" .....	216	Excelsior.		













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Abstracts of proceedings.

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